





• 1 Peter 4:12-19



- 1 Peter 4:12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.
- 1 Peter 4:16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.
- 1 Peter 4:19 Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.



- Don't be surprise, it's not strange.
 - It's a test.
 - It's according to God's will
 - Not be ashamed



Let none of you suffer as a

murderer

thief

evildoer

meddler

- Peter warns that we should not be doing evil things. If we suffer for these things that are on us, not God.
- Murderer, thief, evil doer, meddler



- Knowing that we face a fiery trial, how do we face it in a way that is righteous and godly?
- How can I be a shining light in such dark times and struggles?
- Peter teaches us 4 ways to respond



- Rejoice and be Glad
 - 1 Peter 4:13 But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.



Rejoice and Be Glad

- Be careful about this
 - He's not telling us to be happy, nor to enjoy, the suffering.
 - We have a picture of Jesus' struggle in the garden
 - Mark 14:33-35 (ESV) 33 And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be **greatly distressed** and **troubled**. 34 And he said to them, "**My soul is very sorrowful, even to death**. Remain here and watch." 35 And going a little farther, he **fell on the ground** and **prayed** that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.



Rejoice and Be Glad

- Hebrews 5:7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.



Rejoice and Be Glad

- Rejoice that you share in Christ's sufferings
 - Acts 5:41 (ESV) 41 Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.
- Rejoice and be glad
 - looks to the future, through the pain, to the glory
 - Matthew 5:12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
 - persecuted prophets before: not strange, not ashamed



- Glorify God

- 1 Peter 4:16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.
- This provides an instructive contrast for us.
- The point of the suffering brought against us by those who don't believe is that we are shamed, that we will stop following Christ, that we will conform to their world: it would be easier and better (in this life).
 - Peter teaches us that instead of being shamed into turning back to the world



Glorify God

- We glorify God:
 - 1:3: mercy, living hope
 - 1:4: inheritance: imperishable, undefiled, unfading, kept
 - 1:5: salvation
- Acts 5:41 (ESV) 41 Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.



- Psalms 105:1-6 (ESV) 1 Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! 3 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! 4 Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually! 5 Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered, 6 O offspring of Abraham, his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!



Entrust Your Soul to a Faithful Creator

- Entrust your soul to a faithful creator
 - 1 Peter 2:23 When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.



Entrust Your Soul to a Faithful Creator

- Faithful Creator

- 1 Peter 1:9 obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.
- 1 Peter 1:10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully,
- 1 Peter 1:13 Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.



Entrust Your Soul to a Faithful Creator

- We suffer sometimes according to God's will.
 - God's will is that the world be saved from sin.
 - We have an part in this great plan.
- Do we trust God's plan for the salvation of the world?
- Do I trust that he will provide for my salvation.
- Do I understand that he is the creator, and has dominion?



- The Judgment

- 1 Peter 4:17-18 (ESV) 17 For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 And “If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”



Entrust Your Soul to a Faithful Creator

- The righteous will be saved
 - We've already seen that Peter is trying to give assurance to these elect exiles that their salvation is real, kept in heaven, and the outcome of our faith.
 - He's showing them in various ways that their salvation is assured as long as they keep faith.
 - Why would Peter then imply that their salvation was something that barely happens?
 - scarcely —
 - can be translated "hardly" or "with difficulty"
 - context is suffering ... that's seems to be the difficulty
 - Through the suffering, the righteous will be saved.
 - So trust your faithful creator!



Doing Good

- Doing good
 - Peter keeps telling us this: 8X so far
 - good deeds: 2:12
 - do good: 2:14; 3:6, 11
 - doing good: 2:15
 - zealous for what is good: 3:13
 - good behavior: 3:16
 - doing good: 4:19



- Why? Why do we need to keep hearing it?
 - Weary
 - Galatians 6:9-10 (ESV) 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.
 - We do good, and we suffer (repeat)
 - worn down, tired, no point, lose hope
 - Suffering
 - Hebrews 13:16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.
 - Doing good is a sacrifice: sacrifice is hard.



- Share Christ's Sufferings
 - This is not just about what happened to Jesus, nor to us
 - This is not just about dealing with the fiery trial
 - It must also be about how we approach the suffering and understanding why we are suffering



- Previously Peter has said concerning Christ
 - 2:4: rejected by men
 - 2:7: builders rejected
 - 2:8: stone of stumbling and a rock of offense
 - 2:21: Christ also suffered for you
 - 2:23: reviled, suffered
 - 2:24: bore our sins in his body on the tree
 - 2:24: wounds
 - 3:18: Christ also suffered once for sins ... bring us to God
 - 3:18: put to death in the flesh
 - 4:1: Christ suffered in the flesh



- Jesus: “for you”; “bore our sins”; “once for sins”; “bring us to God”
 - It’s not just that he suffered, but why he suffered
 - Hebrews 2:10
 - For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist,
 - faithful creator!
 - in bringing many sons to glory,
 - purpose and focus.
 - Not about Jesus, but about his brothers
 - should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.
 - perfect = complete



- Our suffering is not just about suffering ... why are we suffering?
 - 1 Peter 2:20: Doing good and suffer, endure: gracious thing in the sight of God
 - 1 Peter 3:14: suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed
 - 1 Peter 3:17: For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will
 - 1 Peter 2:12: Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.



Blessed

- Blessed (4:14)
 - 1 Peter 3:14: But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed.
 - Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,
 - Negative reactions to suffering is fear and trouble (normal in most cases)



- 1 Peter 4:14: If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed,
 - because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.
 - a positive reason: spirit of glory and of God
 - rests: refreshment, comfort, assurance — the presence of God
 - after sin in garden, Adam and Eve hid from the presence of God because of fear
 - Grace: now the presence of God helps us during troubling times.
 - another reason that we need not be ashamed



Blessed

- Luke 6:22-23 “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! 23 Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.



- What is my fiery trial?
- Are we even facing fiery trials?
 - Our situation is very different from those Peter wrote to.
 - Certainly we don't face the same physically harmful persecution.
 - There is still scorning, reviling, insulting, and mocking.
 - There's still pressure from the government in various ways to conform to their man made systems.



- What is Peter teaching me?
 - It's not unusual for saints to face trials.
 - Be prepared.
 - Rejoice looking forward to our salvation.
 - Glorify God and don't be ashamed.
 - Trust God to care for your soul.
 - Do good.

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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Responding To The Fiery Trial

1 Peter 4:12-19

Synopsis: Peter prepares us for the sufferings we will face during the fiery trial, suffering he is familiar with as he considers the life of Jesus and his own life. He reminds us to rejoice and look forward, to glorify God, to trust God, and to do good.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”