



1ST

PETER

*Encouragement to endure when life gets tough*



# 1 Peter 4:12-19

<sup>12</sup> Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

## 1 Peter 4:12-19

<sup>14</sup> If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. <sup>15</sup> If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. <sup>16</sup> However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

# 1 Peter 4:12-19

<sup>17</sup> For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup> And, "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" <sup>19</sup> So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

# 1 Peter 5:1-4

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: <sup>2</sup> Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve;

# 1 Peter 5:1-4

<sup>3</sup> not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. <sup>4</sup> And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

## MAIN IDEA:

Our response to suffering will either lead us to defeat and despair, or to future glory.



*We can respond to suffering for Christ by...*

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

*We can respond to suffering for Christ by...*

1) Expecting it.

2)

3)

4)

5)

*We can respond to suffering for Christ by...*

- 1) Expecting it.
- 2) Rejoicing in it.
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

“There is more of God’s glory to be seen and savored through suffering than through self-serving escape. Paul puts it like this:

“Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison” (2 Corinthians 4:16-27).

“Momentary” refers to a lifetime in comparison with eternity. “Slight” refers to suffering and death compared to the weight of everlasting joy in the presence of God. This is what we gain if we hold fast to Christ. This is what we waste if we don’t”

*- John Piper, “Don’t Waste Your Life”*

*We can respond to suffering for Christ by...*

- 1) Expecting it.
- 2) Rejoicing in it.
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

*We can respond to suffering for Christ by...*

- 1) Expecting it.
- 2) Rejoicing in it.
- 3) Examining our lives during it.
- 4)
- 5)

*We can respond to suffering for Christ by...*

- 1) Expecting it.
- 2) Rejoicing in it.
- 3) Examining our lives during it.
- 4) Remaining faithful despite it.
- 5)



*We can respond to suffering for Christ by...*

- 1) Expecting it.
- 2) Rejoicing in it.
- 3) Examining our lives during it.
- 4) Remaining faithful despite it.
- 5) Serving others because of it.

“The important thing is that a Christian community should know that somewhere in it there will certainly be “a reasoning among them, which of them should be the greatest”. It is the struggle of the natural man for self-justification. He finds it only in comparing himself with others, in condemning and judging others.

Self-justification and judging others go together,  
as justification by grace and serving others  
go together.”

– *Dietrich Bonhoeffer, “Life Together”*

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