

### 3. By not being ashamed, but by glorifying God (16).

*“Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.”*

“Let him not be ashamed”

“Let him glorify God”

WHY?

### 4. Because in the judgement, God will repay both the righteous and the ungodly (17-18).

*“For it is time for judgement 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? And*

*‘If the righteous is scarcely saved, What will become of the ungodly and the sinner?’*

- a. God uses suffering and judgement to purify His church and to strengthen believers.
- b. The future judgement will award those who have persevered for Christ.
- c. The future judgment will punish those who have persecuted God’s people.

#### Questions for self-reflection

*Are you surprised when God sends trials to test you?*

*Do you view your suffering as a part of God’s will?*

*When you suffer is it because of your own sin or poor choices?*

*When you suffer do you respond with a joyful anticipation of Christ and his return?*



Sunday, October 2, 2022

**How to Live Like an Alien**  
The First Letter of Peter

**No. 24 – Entrusting our souls to God amid suffering**

**1 Peter 4:12-19**

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#### Review

The apostle Peter, writing to Christians who are both *elect* and *exiles*, encourages them to live faithfully...

- Praising God for Our Salvation (1:3-12)
- Setting Our Hope on God (1:13-21)
- Growing in God’s Word (1:22-2:3)
- Being Built Up as a Spiritual House (2:4-8, 9-10)
- Keeping Our Conduct Honorable as God’s People (2:9-10, 11-12)
  - Being Subject as Citizens to Human Authorities (2:13-17)
  - Being Subject as Servants to Our Masters (2:18-25)
  - Being Subject as Wives to Their Husbands (3:1-6)
  - Being Considerate as Husbands to Their Wives (3:7)
  - Being Considerate as Believers to Each Other (3:8-12)
  - Being Committed to Doing Good No Matter What (3:13-17)
- Christ’s suffering gives us confidence to face our suffering (3:18-22)
- Christ’s suffering gives us determination to cease from sinning (4:1-6)
- Staying Close to One Another (4:7-11)
- Entrusting our Souls to God (4:12-19)

#### No. 24 – Entrusting our souls to God amid suffering

**1 Peter 4:12-19**

<sup>ESV</sup> **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. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. <sup>15</sup> But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup> Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be

ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. <sup>17</sup> 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? <sup>18</sup> And

“If the righteous is scarcely saved,  
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

**4:19** Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

**As elect exiles we live faithfully by...**

**Entrusting our souls to God amid suffering.**

God wants those who suffer according to His will to entrust their souls to Him.

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“Therefore, let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.”

- a. It is God’s will that we should suffer.
- b. Some sorts of suffering is by God’s decree.
- c. Our response to suffering is important.

What kind of Suffering is Peter talking about?

Can this passage be about more than just “Christian suffering?”

**God wants those who suffer according to God’s will to entrust their souls to Him (v.19).**

HOW?

**1. By not being surprised at fiery trials but by rejoicing as you share Christ’s suffering (12-13).**

“Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.”

a. Suffering is often surprising and painful.

“do not be surprised... as though something strange were happening.”

“fiery trial”

b. Suffering for Christ is not pointless.

“when it comes to test you”

c. Suffering for Christ is a reason for rejoicing.

“Rejoice and be glad”

“when his glory is revealed”

**2. By suffering because of Christ, not because you are a wrongdoer who is suffering the consequences for his actions (14-15).**

“If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.

a. Those who suffer on behalf of Christ are blessed.

“If you are insulted”

“You are blessed”

b. Those who suffer for unchristian conduct are shamed.

“Let none of you suffer as a murderer... et cetera”