

***Living for Christ
in a Hostile World***

Studies in 1 Peter

Enduring Suffering

1 Peter 4.12-19

A Quick Recap

- *All suffering is painful 1.6*
- *All suffering is purposeful 1.7*
- *Our suffering may be undeserved
2.19-20; 3.13-14,17*
- *Our Saviour suffered for our salvation*
 - the prophets' preoccupation 1.10-11*
 - the Father's eternal plan 1.20*
 - a redemptive purpose 1.18-21; 2.24-25; 3.18*
 - an example to follow 2.20-23; 3.9*

Seven significant facts about suffering

1. Suffering shouldn't take us by surprise,v12

- ***It's to be expected*** ***2 Tim 3.12; John 15.18-16.4***
Mat 5.11-12
- ***Some suffering is the result of***
 - ***living in a flawed and fractured world***
 - ***people's malice and sin***
 - ***our own folly and sin***
 - ***being loyal to Jesus vs14,16***
- ***Suffering happens as part of God's will v19***
Rom 8.28

2. Suffering can bring us great joy, v13

- ***An opportunity for fellowship with Jesus
empathise and appreciate Phil 3.10***
- ***Suffering is the pathway to glory
- for Jesus 1.10-11; Lk 24.26
- for his followers Rom 8.17-18***
- ***Suffering helps us understand how great the
glory will be 2 Cor 4.16-18; 1 Cor 2.9; 1 Pet 1.4***
- ***Jesus is with us in our suffering
Dan 3.24-25; Is 43.1-3; 2 Tim 4.16-17***

3. Suffering may be provoked by godliness, v14

- ***Our glory comes from God's Spirit 2 Cor 3.18***
Some will find us attractive 3.1-2, 15
Others will be abusive 4.4; John 3.18

4. Suffering must be for the right reasons, v15-16

- ***Anger, insult are like murder Mat 5.21-22***
- ***Theft is denying people what we owe them v10***
Mal 3.8-10
- ***Don't meddle! 1 Thess 4.11***
- ***We're privileged to bear the name of Jesus v16***
it's no insult to us Acts 11.26; 26.28; 5.41

5. Suffering refines God's people, v17

- *It burns away the dross* 1.5-7; Job 23.10

6. Suffering awaits unbelievers, v17-18

- *Too dreadful to contemplate*
torment Luke 16.23-24
weeping Mat 13.40-42
exclusion 2 Thess 1.7-9

7. Suffering is our opportunity to trust God, v19

- *and prove his faithfulness*
follow the example of Jesus 2.23
trust our Creator Mat 6.24-34
continue to do good Acts 4.24-31