

# Rejoicing and Trusting God through Suffering

## 1 Peter 4:12-19

In today's text 1 Peter 4:12-19, Peter will call us to **rejoice** in the **suffering** that we **face** as Christians. This suffering is **common** and shouldn't **surprise** us, as God uses it to **test** our faith. When we **suffer** for the **name** of **Christ** we are **blessed**, because this **glorifies God** and will ultimately **result** in our eternal **reward**. As a Christian we should **never** suffer for doing **wrong**, for God will surely **chastise** us if we do. If **God** will chastise those in **His** own **household**, how much **worse** will the godless **sinner** be **judged**. But when we do **suffer**, we must learn to **trust God** and His **good** purposes through it.

Today's text is 1 Peter 4:12-19, where we will see

- V-4:12-14 – Rejoicing in Suffering
- V-4:15-19 – Trusting God through Suffering

Acts 8:1-3 - And Saul was in hearty agreement with putting him to death. **And on that day a great persecution arose against the church in Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.** 2 And some devout men buried Stephen, and made loud lamentation over him. 3 But **Saul began ravaging the church, entering house after house; and dragging off men and women, he would put them in prison.** NASB

Acts 12:1-3 - 12 Now about that time Herod the king laid hands on some who belonged to the church, in order to mistreat them. 2 And he had James the brother of John put to death with a sword. NASB

Matthew 5:10-12 - 10 "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when men cast insults at you, and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, on account of Me. 12 "Rejoice, and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. NASB

John 15:18-22 - 18 "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. 19 "If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20 "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also. 21 "But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me. NASB

Acts 5:40-42 - 40 And they took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, they flogged them and ordered them to speak no more in the name of Jesus, and then released them. 41 So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name. 42 And every day, in

the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ. NASB

**Philippians 2:14-16** - 14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing; 15 **that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, 16 holding fast the word of life,** so that in the **day of Christ I may have cause to glory** because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain. NASB

**Daniel 5:25-28** - 25 "Now this is the inscription that was written out: **'MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.'** 26 "This is the interpretation of the message: **'MENE' — God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it. 27 "'TEKEL' — you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient. 28 "'PERES' — your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians."** NASB

**Hebrews 12:6, 10-11** - 6 For **those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He scourges every son whom He receives....** 10 For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but **He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness.** 11 All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to **those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.** NASB

2 Thessalonians 1:5-10 - 5 This is a plain indication of God's righteous judgment so that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for **which indeed you are suffering.** 6 For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, 7 and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, 8 dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed — for our testimony to you was believed.

1 Peter 1:3-6 - 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 **to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are protected by the power of God through faith** for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. NASB

Psalms 84:10-12 - 10 **For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand outside. I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God, Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.** 11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. 12 **O Lord of hosts, How blessed is the man who trusts in Thee!**