

“A Theology of Suffering”  
1 Peter 4:12-19

Central Idea: In our suffering God accomplishes much in our lives.

1. As believers we should \_\_\_\_\_ suffering (12)

“surprised” and “strange”

- believers are on a \_\_\_\_\_ course with the world
- “fiery ordeal” = the \_\_\_\_\_ situations you are facing.

2. As believers we should \_\_\_\_\_ in suffering (12b, 13-14)

Peter gives us some reasons to rejoice:

- “comes upon you for your testing” (12b)
  - testing that is expecting a \_\_\_\_\_ outcome.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ fire that purifies and strengthens us.
- Suffering \_\_\_\_\_ us to Christ who also suffered (13a)
- When Christ \_\_\_\_\_ we will be rejoicing that we suffered (13b)
- We don't have to wait for \_\_\_\_\_ to experience glory (14)

3. As believers we should not be \_\_\_\_\_ to suffer (15-16)

Suffering as a \_\_\_\_\_ = shameful (15)

Suffering as a Christian = \_\_\_\_\_ to God (16)

“Christian” - a \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ or “\_\_\_\_\_ Christ”

4. As believers we should know, understand & remember that our

\_\_\_\_\_ suffering is better than \_\_\_\_\_ suffering (17-18)

- The time of the suffering (17)
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- believers suffering is now - \_\_\_\_\_
- unbelievers suffering is later - \_\_\_\_\_ world judgment
- The intensity of the suffering (18) - “with difficulty”
- believers - \_\_\_\_\_ (comparatively) & \_\_\_\_\_ suffering
- unbelievers: \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ suffering

5. As believers we should entrust ourselves to God in suffering (19)

“entrust” - “to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ to one's charge”

Why is God so trustworthy? Because of His \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

- “faithful”
  - tells us that God is not going to \_\_\_\_\_ us.
  - tells us God has a \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ interest in us.
- “Creator”
  - tells us He has the power and the ability to \_\_\_\_\_ us.