

# ***“The Benefits of Living for the Cross”***

## **Suffering for Him Pt. 1**

**1 Peter 4:12-19**

### **Introduction:**

**Fiery Ordeal** – is the intense persecution and suffering a true believer in Jesus Christ will endure for the sake of righteousness and these trials have a direct link to our reward in heaven.

*This whole epistle has been about how the Church should respond to unjust suffering.*

**There are 4 key ways we are to respond to suffering for Christ:**

- **We are to Expect it v.12**
- We are to Rejoice in it
- We are to Evaluate it
- We are to Commit ourselves to God

### **I. The Beloved of God v.12a**

- a. Beloved is a pastoral word meaning
  - i. A word of tenderness
  - ii. A word of compassion
  - iii. A word of affection
  - iv. A word of care
- b. The Church is the beloved of God especially during the time of suffering

### **II. We are not to be Surprised by Suffering v.12b**

- a. For a Christian, suffering shouldn't be foreign
- b. We are not to be surprised by it 1 Jhn 13:13
- c. True Christians will endure sufferings for righteousness sake (see list)

Please Turn Over

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### **III. God Allows Fiery Trials to Come v.12c**

- a. He allows them to come for our testing
- b. It is how he proves who is real and who is not Matt 13:5-6
- c. Phonies don't stick around

### **IV. Our Fiery Trials are Not by Chance v.12d**

- a. Our trials are not something that happens to us by chance
- b. They are God allowed and designed
- c. They prove who is real and purges the impurities from our life

**Next Week we will cover the 2<sup>nd</sup> response:**

- Rejoicing in suffering.