

Suffering for the Cause Pt. 2

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 v.13-14**
- We are to Evaluate it
- We are to Commit ourselves to God

I. Glory Based on the Degree We Suffer v.13a

- a. Our eternal reward is proportionate to our earthly suffering
- b. Jesus, Himself spoke about this relationship between suffering and reward Luke 6:22-23

II. We Are to Rejoice in Suffering v.13b

- a. This is the right response for anything the world brings against us for the sake of righteousness and for the sake of the name of Jesus Christ Matt 5:10-12

III. Rejoicing at the Revelation of His Glory v.13c

- a. Jesus is glorified in Heaven, but His glory is not yet revealed on earth for everyone to see Matt 24:30
- b. Rejoicing with exultation means to have rapturous Joy!

Please Turn Over

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IV. Reviled for the Name of Christ v.14a

- a. If we are reviled - insulted, mistreated, reproached, it is to be because of the name of Jesus Christ
- b. In these reviling we are to rejoice

V. The Name of Christ v.14b

- a. The Name of Christ – is representative all that He is
- b. NT Christians proclaimed the “Name” in their witnessing
- c. Christians are to rejoice in suffering for the “Name” Acts 5:41

VI. Blessed Because of Suffering v.14c

- a. This blessing is not a feeling
- b. Blessed because the Spirit of Glory and of God rest upon you
- c. The spirit of God dwells inside of us today
Rom 8:9

VII. Spirit of Glory v.14d

- a. The Glory is the Shekinah Glory of God
- b. This is the presence of God in our life

VIII. Rest Upon You v.14e

- a. Rest means to give relief, refreshment, and intermission from toil.
- b. This Rest becomes the dominant power of our life in the midst of our suffering