

# Suffering for the Cause Pt. 3

## 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 vss. 15-18**
- **We are to Commit Ourselves to God v.19**

### **I. Evaluating Our Suffering v.15**

- a. Not all suffering brings Holy Spirit relief
- b. Murderer, Thief, Evil Doer, and Troublesome Meddler are all unacceptable sufferings
- c. We are to be model citizens Titus 3:1-5

### **II. Suffering As A Christians v.16**

- a. If we suffer for being a Christian we are not to be ashamed.
- b. The Church was first called Christian in Acts 11:26.
- c. In the name Christian we are to glorify God. – Praise God for the Privilege

Please Turn Over

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### **III. Time for judgment v.17**

- a. We should look at suffering as a sign the end is near 1 Pet 4:7
- b. The word “Time” is not clock time but it means “Season”
- c. Peter is not speaking of condemnation of the Church when he says judgment, but evaluation and purification Rom 8:1
- d. Eternal Damnation is the outcome from those who don't obey the gospel of God 2 Thess 1:4-9

### **IV. Quoting Proverbs 11:31 v.18**

- a. Difficulty refers to the hard time that persecution brings to the believers
- b. Our suffering should be for righteousness sake and not because of sin.

### **V. Entrusting Ourselves to God v.19**

- a. Christians can entrust themselves to God in the midst of their suffering
- b. The godless man and sinner can not
- c. Entrusting our Soul to God is the same thing Christ did on the Cross Lk 23:46
- d. God is a faithful Creator and He keeps His promises Phil 4:19
- e. We must keep doing what is right in the midst of suffering.