

Suffering For God's Glory

I Peter 4:12-19

I Peter 15

Introduction

Christians who really live for Jesus will usually have to suffer for Jesus.

(Read I Peter 4:12-19)

There is no shame in this.

I. The Spirit of Glory and of God

(Read vs. 14)

This is referring to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is inside of every Christian.

He is especially manifested in those who are suffering for the Lord.

Isiah 11:2- *The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him- the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of advice and power, the Spirit of knowledge and fear of the LORD.*

Matthew 3:16- *After Jesus was baptized, he immediately came up from the water. Suddenly, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down as a dove to him.*

John 14:16-17- *I will ask the Father, and he will give you another helper who will be with you forever. That helper is the Spirit of Truth. The world cannot accept him, because it doesn't see or know him. You know him, because he lives with you and will be in you.*

Acts 2:2-4- Suddenly, a sound like a violently blowing wind came from the sky and filled the whole house where they were staying. Tongues that looked like fire appeared to them. The tongues arranged themselves so that one came to rest on each believer. All the believers were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak.

II. Judgment

(Read vs. 17)

Jesus cleansed the temple when He was on earth.

Here the cleansing of the church is urged.

Ezekiel 9:1-6- Then I heard the LORD call out with a loud voice. He said, "Come here, those who are going to punish this city. Each of you should bring your weapon with you." So six men came from the upper north gate. Each one brought a deadly weapon with him. Among them was a person dressed in linen who was carrying paper and pen. The men came in and stood by the bronze altar. Then the glory of the God of Israel went up from the angels, where it had been, to the temple's entrance. The LORD called to the person dressed in linen who was carrying paper and pen. The LORD said to that person, "Go throughout the city of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of those who sigh and groan about all the disgusting things that are being done in the city." Then he said to the others as I was listening, "Follow him throughout the city and kill. Don't have any compassion, and don't feel sorry. Kill old men, young men, old women, young women, and children. But don't come near anyone who has a mark on him. Start with my holy place." So they started with the old men in front of the temple.

Matthew 3:1-4- ***Later, John the Baptizer appeared in the desert of Judea. His message was, "Turn to God and change the way you think and act, because the kingdom of heaven is near." Isaiah the prophet spoke about this man when he said, "A voice cries out in the desert: 'Prepare the way for the Lord! Make his paths straight!'" John wore clothes made from camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His diet consisted of locusts and wild honey.***

Matthew 21:12-13- ***Jesus went into the temple courtyard and threw out everyone who was buying and selling there. He overturned the moneychangers' tables and the chairs of those who sold pigeons. He told them, "Scripture says, 'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you're turning it into a gathering place for thieves!"***

This is a judgment for purification not for punishment.

III. **Scarcely Saved**

(Read vs. 18)

This verse quotes Proverbs 11:31.

Proverbs 11:31- ***Behold, the righteous shall be rewarded in the earth; much more the wicked and the sinner.***

People who are saved in the midst of suffering do not have an easy salvation. This is what that “barely saved” thing means. Salvation has nothing to do with you and your works.

Ephesians 2:9- ***not of works, lest anyone should boast.***

Scarcely = with difficulty.

They will ultimately be delivered from the suffering to eternal life, but there will be earthly difficulty along the way.

However, this is better than the non-Christian. Even the non-Christian who does not have earthly difficulty will have eternal suffering. This is much more terrifying.

IV. Suffering For the Will of God

(Read vs. 19)

This is a summary of the teaching.

God has complete sovereignty over all things. However, because God is faithful we can have confidence and trust in Him even when we are suffering.

The proper response to suffering is not just endurance, but trust in God- because He is good.

Conclusion

Remember that this is speaking of suffering for God's glory- not for our own sinful stupidity.

The next session we are going to look at this whole concept of Why God allows suffering in more detail.

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I Peter Session 15

Introduction

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There is no _____ in this.

I. The Spirit of Glory and of God

(Isaiah 11:2; Matthew 3:16; John 14:16-17; Acts 2:2-4)

The Holy Spirit is _____ of every Christian.

II. Judgment

(Ezekiel 9:1-6; Matthew 3:1-4; 21:12-13)

Jesus _____ the temple when He was on earth.

Here the cleansing of the _____ is urged.

This is a judgment for purification not for _____.

III. Scarcely Saved

(Proverbs 11:31; Ephesians 2:9)

People who are saved in the midst of suffering do not have an _____ salvation.

This is what that “_____” thing means. Salvation has nothing to do with you and your works.

Scarcely = with _____.

IV. Suffering For the Will of God

God has complete _____ over all things. However, because God is faithful we can have confidence and trust in Him even when we are suffering.

The proper response to suffering is not just endurance, but _____ in God- because He is good.

Conclusion

Remember that this is speaking of suffering for God's glory- not for our own sinful _____.

Possible Answers: difficulty, church, suffer, shame, punishment, sovereignty, trust, easy, inside, cleansed, barely saved, stupidity