

The Book of 1 Peter

Trials That Transform

1 Peter 4:12-19

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Bottom Line:

Trials and hardships are challenging and disruptive in a believer's life. However, God wants us to know that pain can have a purpose and can bring about a deeper and more impactful walk with the Lord!

1. We should expect suffering! (not surprised)

1 Peter 4:12-13; John 16:33

A. Suffering is not strange but common for believers!

"surprised" = Greek "xenizō" =

"to be shocked, astonished, or caught off guard by something foreign."

Stop treating suffering like it doesn't belong in your life.



B. Suffering connects us to Christ's own experience!

Phil. 1:29; Acts 5:41 Word "share" = "koinōnea"
"to participate, have fellowship with."

"Suffer for Christ" is not merely enduring hardship, we are entering into fellowship with Him.

2. Pain can have a purpose! 1 Peter 4:14-16



A. Suffering for Christ is a mark of blessing, not shame. 1 Peter 4:14;16; Matthew 5:11-12
Peter says something radical: If you are insulted... you are blessed.

B. Distinguish between suffering for Christ and suffering for sin.
Not all suffering is noble. Some suffering is self-inflicted.

3. Trust in God's greater goals and purposes!

1 Peter 4:17-19; Philippians 1:6

A. Suffering is part of God's purifying judgment v. 17
God allows suffering in the lives of His people not to destroy them—but to refine them.

Suffering now is temporary and purposeful. For unbelievers, judgment later is eternal & final.

B. Entrust your life to God and keep doing good!
Place your life into God's hands, confident that He will guard it. And while you trust Him, continue "doing good."