

Disciple's Quest

*IF YOU CONTINUE IN MY WORD, THEN YOU ARE
TRULY DISCIPLES OF MINE.*

JOHN 8:31



May 16, 2021
How to Suffer Successfully for
Righteousness Sake
1 Peter 3:13-17

Main Idea:

For most Christians, actual harsh treatment for the sake of the Gospel isn't a common occurrence. However, if/when you suffer for righteousness' sake, remember that God intends it for your blessing, and He has provided the instructions for standing firm, experiencing His good grace, and often for proclaiming the truth to those who need to hear it.

Outline

1. The Pursuit
2. The Price
3. The Promise
4. The Plan for Suffering Successfully:
 - Do not fear
 - Be prepared ahead of time to stand for the Truth

Application – Questions for further contemplation following the message:

- #1 What do we mean when we say the disciples of Jesus are “sojourners” in this present world?
- #2 In the message, Pastor Vaughn emphasized Peter’s assertion (v. 13) that most unbelievers will not harm Christians for living righteously (including sharing the faith).
- What less potent forms of persecution are commonly experienced by Christians?
 - Should the dread of possible persecution hold us back from our calling? Why or why not?
- #3 Although unbelievers will not harshly persecute believers, some will. What is God’s promise to those Christians who are selected to truly suffer for righteousness sake?
- #4 Why is the biblical understanding of God’s sovereignty and providence essential when we encounter persecution and/or suffering of any kind?
- #5 What steps should one take as a Christian to “be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is within you?”