

1 PETER: IDENTITY IN EXIL

Don't Be Surprised By The Fir

11 - How Christians Suffer Without Losi

1 Peter 4:12-19 (NLT)

12 Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going thru strange were happening to you. 13 Instead, be very glad—for these tr with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of s revealed to all the world.

14 If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will b Spirit of God rests upon you. 15 If you suffer, however, it must not be i making trouble, or prying into other people's affairs. 16 But it is no sha Christian. Praise God for the privilege of being called by his name! 17 judgment, and it must begin with God's household. And if judgment be fate awaits those who have never obeyed God's Good News? 18 And barely saved, what will happen to godless sinners?"

19 So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doin your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.

- Christians lose heart in suffering when they misinterpret t

1. Do not be surprised by fiery trials

1 Peter 4:12 (NIV)

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on something strange were happening to you.

- Surprise intensifies suffering.
- The fire is painful, but it's not meaningless.
- The presence of fire does not mean the absence of God.

2. Rejoice that suffering for Christ connects you to Christ

1 Peter 4:12-13 (NLT)

12 Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going thru strange were happening to you.

13 Instead, **rejoice**—for *these trials make you partners with Christ* you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed

- Suffering for Christ is not meaningless pain. It's the basis with Christ, rooted in hope.
- Hope doesn't erase the pain of suffering, but it changes it
- The fire may hurt, but it also marks me as belonging to Je

3. Make sure you are suffering as a Christian, not as an evi

er 4:14-15 (NIV)