"Suffering, yet Blessed"

Text: I Peter 3:21-22 Scripture reading: Hebrews 1:1-12

Previous studies:

I. Responding to right – vv. 13-14

II. Responding to reviling – vv. 15-16

III. Responding to redemption – vv. 17-20

Reviewing the text: The difficulties of vv. 18-20

Five theories on vs. 19 among scholars; from W. Grudem – TNTC commentary on I Peter:
#1. Christ preached through Noah:

#2. Second chance for unbelievers:

#3. Proclaiming victory over people in hell:

#4. Proclaiming release from Purgatory:

#5. Proclaiming victory over demons in hell:

Today's study:
IV. Responding to resurrection – vv. 21-22

A) A _____ representation – vs. 21a

Two important truths on baptism from Rom. 6:3-4
1) Believer's baptism is a _____ of our salvation..

2) The believer's _____ with Christ.

B) A _____ conviction – vs. 21b

C) A _____ reign – vs. 22

Conclusion: Questions for meditation and discussion.
-How does the knowledge of your being "immersed" into Christ effect your walk of faith?
-How does the resurrection of Christ establish a deep conviction regarding your salvation?
-What does vs. 22 teach us about God's view of Christ and His suffering, death and resurrection?
-What truths does the submission of vs. 22 teach us about the authorities and submissions of chapters 2 and 3?
-In what ways does the "enthroned Christ" of vs. 22 influence your suffering for the sake of righteousness?

"A heart ascendant is the best evidence of your interest in Christ's ascension."
-John Flavel; English Puritan minister; 1627-1691

SERMON QUOTES:

IV. Responding to resurrection – vv. 21-22
A) A _____ representation – vs. 21a

Edwin Blum,
"*Peter says that the water of the Flood-judgment portrays the water of baptism: 'And this water symbolizes baptism*.'"

Wayne Gruden on vs. 21a,
"*We could paraphrase, 'Baptism now saves you – not the outward physical ceremony of baptism but the inward spiritual reality that baptism represents*."

C) A _____ reign – vs. 22

Pastor John MacArthur,
"*Both the Old and New Testaments affirm the right hand as a place of prestige and power. The right hand of God is the preeminent place of honor and authority for all eternity. That is where Christ went after He finished His work of redemption, and that is where He rules from today*."