

Pastor Keith Krell | November 14, 2021

1 Peter 3:13-4:6 | “Strength in Suffering”

Sermon Application Review from 1 Peter 3:1-12

How have you prioritized internal beauty over external beauty this week (3:4)?

In what specific ways have you honored your wife (3:7)?

How have you “pursued peace” in your relationships with both believers and unbelievers (3:8–12)?

Scripture References

1 Peter 3:13–4:6

Matthew 5:10–12

Philippians 1:27–30

Titus 2:11–14; 3:3–7

Romans 6:3–5

Philippians 2:5–11

Hebrews 9:26–28

Study Questions

1. How have you recently demonstrated you are “zealous for what is good” (1 Peter 3:13)? In what ways has God “blessed” you when you have wrongly suffered on His account (3:14)? How have you been able to “give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence” (3:15)? What are some situations where you did good despite facing difficult people (3:15–17)? What did you do?
2. Why was Christ’s death necessary (1 Peter 3:18)? What is most meaningful to you about His work on the cross? How do you understand the significance of the controversial 3:19–20? How do Peter’s words encourage you to persevere amidst suffering?
3. How has 1 Peter 3:20–22 helped you appreciate both Spirit and water baptism? Why is baptism *not* a condition of salvation? How do these verses provide you greater assurance of your salvation? Why is assurance and security so critical during periods of suffering?
4. How does Christ’s suffering provide a model to help you fight against sin (1 Peter 4:1–2)? Why do non-Christians try to get you to sin with them (4:3–4)? How can you resist this temptation? How can you best help someone realize that “the time already past is sufficient” for sin (4:3)?
5. How should the awareness that you must give an account of your actions challenge you (1 Peter 4:5–6)? How does Peter’s reasoning feed your urgency in sharing the gospel? In what ways does keeping an eternal perspective help you cope with difficulties in the present?

Recommended Reading

Dan G. McCartney, *Why Does It Have to Hurt? The Meaning of Christian Suffering* (P&R, 1997)

Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God: Even When Life Hurts* (NavPress, [1988] 2008)

Randy Alcon, *If God is Good: Faith in the Midst of Suffering and Evil* (Multnomah, 2009)

Randy Alcon, *The Goodness of God: Assurance of Purpose in the Midst of Suffering* (Multnomah, 2010)

Andreas J. Köstenberger and Peter O’Brien, *Salvation to the Ends of the Earth* (InterVarsity, 2001)

Answers: ordinary, False, reward, True, apart, apologia, Christ, False, time, 180, main, Noah, False, power, complete, military, rest, six, False, now

“Strength in Suffering” (1 Peter 3:13–4:6)

Introduction: How should a Christian soldier serve Jesus Christ? _____

Big Idea: Suffering can prepare _____ believers for extraordinary service.

1. Turn Misery into Ministry (1 Peter 3:13–17).

- Ordinarily, doing good is punished (3:13). True False
- “Blessed” (3:14) refers to eternal _____ (cf. Matt 5:10–12).
- “Suffer” occurs more in 1 Peter than any other NT book. True False
- “Sanctify” means “set _____” (3:15).
- “Make a defense” (3:15) is the Greek word _____.
- Verse 16 is the first time Peter uses the phrase “in _____.”
- God *never* wills the suffering of believers (3:17). True False

2. Focus on Christ’s Victory (1 Peter 3:18–22).

- The Greek adverb translated “once for all” means “once for all _____” (3:18).
- There are _____ exegetical combinations for 3:19–20.
- The plain things are the _____ things in Scripture (3:19–22).
- The days of _____ are very similar to our days (3:20).
- Water baptism is necessary for salvation (3:21). True False
- The “right hand” (3:22) signifies _____.
- Peter’s primary point in 3:18–22 is Jesus’ victory is _____!

3. Prepare Yourself to Suffer (1 Peter 4:1–6).

- “Arm yourselves” (4:1) is frequently used of _____ preparation.
- The word “ceased” is a translation of a word that means “to _____” (4:1).
- We are commanded to flee _____ college campus sins (4:3).
- There is a second chance for those who have rejected Christ (4:6). True False
- “Those who are dead” (4:6) refers to people who are _____ dead.