

Believers Battle
1 Peter 4:12-19

Receive the Trials of Life

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

- 2 Timothy 3:12 – Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.
- Philippians 1:29 – For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

Rejoice in the Trials of Life

13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. **14** If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

Burdened like Christ

- Acts 5:41 – And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.
- Acts 16:23-25 – **23** And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast *them* into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: **24** Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. **25** And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.
- 2 Corinthians 6:10 – As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Blessed in Christ

- Matthew 5:11-12 – **11** *Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.* **12** *Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.*
- Romans 8:16-17 – **16** The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: **17** And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.

Bold in Christ

- 2 Corinthians 4:17 – For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;
- 2 Timothy 2:10 – Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Responsibility in the Trials of Life

15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. **16** Yet if *any man suffer as a Christian*, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

Selfish

- Ephesians 5:6 – Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

Shameless

- Romans 1:16 – For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
- Philippians 1:20 – According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, *so* now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether *it be* by life, or by death.

Response to the Trials of Life

17 For the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if *it* first *begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God? **18** And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? **19** Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls *to him* in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

Chastisement

- 2 Peter 2:9 – The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:
- Revelation 20:15 – And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Condemnation

- Matthew 25:46 – *And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal*
- Philippians 3:18-19 – **18** (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ: **19** Whose end *is* destruction, whose God *is* their belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

Commitment

- 2 Timothy 4:18 – And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve *me* unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.