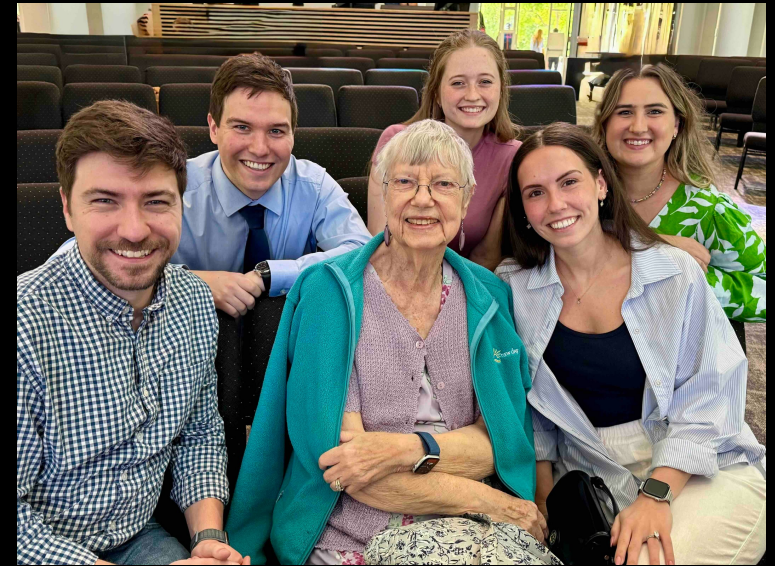


HUNGARY



May 3, 2025

DALLAS



May 10, 2025

ROMANIA



May 17, 2025



I PETER

HOPE IN HARDSHIP

Standing firm in a shifting world



DANUBE
INTERNATIONAL CHURCH



FINGERPRINTS of GOD!



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FIREPROOF FAITH

Enduring the trials of discipleship

I PETER 4:12-19

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12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. 15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. 16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. 17 For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 And If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner? 19 Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

FIREPROOF FAITH

BIG IDEA:

Suffering for Christ is not a sign of His absence, but a mark of union with Him and a pathway to joy and good.

I PETER 4:12-19

Fireproof Faith

I want you to do the following:

- **Reframe suffering**—don't be surprised by it, and don't resent it.
- **Realize suffering isn't random, it's refining** —you are united with Christ in suffering.
- **Entrust your lives to God**—not just your eternal destiny, but your daily responses.

I PETER 4:12-19

Fireproof Faith

- I. The Reframing of Suffering – (vv. 12-13)**
- II. The Refinement of Suffering - (vv. 14–18)**
- III. The Response to Suffering - (v. 19)**

Fireproof Faith

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“Don’t misunderstand the climate of following Jesus in a broken world.”

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I. The Reframing of Suffering – (vv. 12-13)

“If the world hates you...keep in mind that it hated me first.” v. 18. “If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also...” v. 20. “They will treat you this way...because of my name...” v. 21.

John 15:18-21

**“Don’t misunderstand the climate of following Jesus
in a broken world.”**





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Fireproof Faith

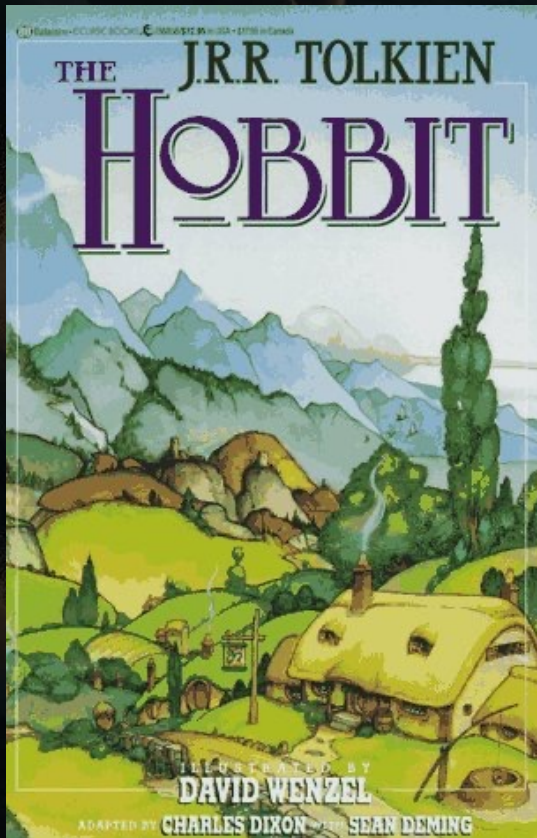
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I. The Reframing of Suffering – (vv. 12-13)



Do not be surprised if the fiery trial comes upon you to test you, because something strange is happening to you. 13 But if you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice in his glory is revealed.

**“Do we really have to go through
groaned the Hobbit.”**
“Yes, you do!” said the wizard,
**“If you want to get to the other side,
you must either go through or give up
your quest.”**
**understand the climate of following Jesus
in a broken world.”**

Fireproof Faith

I. The Reframing of Suffering – (vv. 12-13)

APPLICATION:

Don't be surprised, don't panic, suffering is to be expected

Fireproof Faith

I. The Reframing of Suffering – (vv. 12-13)

13 But *rejoice* insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also *rejoice and be glad* when his glory is revealed.

**"Rejoice" – not because pain is pleasant,
but because it's participation.**

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13 But *rejoice* insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also *rejoice and be glad* when his glory is revealed.

Suffering and joy can coexist at the same time.

Fireproof Faith

I. The Reframing of Suffering – (vv. 12-13)

“Natural joy is a flower that flourishes in the sun of prosperity and withers when that sun is hidden by a cloud of trials.

Nevertheless, the saints can have their greatest portion of joy in affliction, for the source of their joy is outside themselves.

For comfort to spring from affliction is no more natural than for grapes to grow on thorns or for manna to appear in the wilderness. But God chooses this season to make the power of His love the more visible.”

William Gurnall
The Christian in Full Armour

Fireproof Faith

I. The Reframing of Suffering – (vv. 12-13)

SUMMARY

Reframe suffering—don't be surprised by it, don't panic and don't resent it.

I PETER 4:12-19

Fireproof Faith

- I. The Reframing of Suffering – (vv. 12-13)**
- II. The Refinement of Suffering - (vv. 14–18)**
- III. The Response to Suffering - (v. 19)**

Fireproof Faith

II. The Refinement of Suffering - (vv. 14–18)

14 If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.

16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.

17 For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? **18** And If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?

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Suffering for Christ isn't random—it's relational.

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Suffering for Christ isn't random—it's relational.

The cross wasn't just for you—it's also *in* you.

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- Your salvation is rooted in God's mercy (1:3–5)
- Proven in trials (1:6–7)
- Sealed in Christ's sacrifice (2:24–25)
- And secure in God's eternal promise (5:10)

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What Will You Do in the Fire?

- When faith costs you something—will you see it as punishment, or as participation?
- Will you entrust yourself to your faithful Creator, and continue to do good?



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