

Christ's Suffering and Victory
Suffering with Hope: 1 Peter 3:13–22 (Part 3 v21-22)

A. THE INTRODUCTION TO 1 PETER (1:1)

4. The *theme* of this Letter centers around _____ for Christ as it relates to...
- a. _____. (1:1–12)
 - b. _____. (1:13–2:10)
 - c. _____. (2:11–3:22)
 - d. _____. (4:1–5:7)
 - e. _____. (5:8–14)
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- I. The Believer's Expectation With Submission (1 Peter 2:13-20)
- II. The Believer's Example (1 Peter 2:21-25)
- III. Harmony in the Home (1 Peter 3:1-7)
- IV. Harmony in the Church (1 Peter 3:8-12)
- V. Principles of Suffering (1 Peter 3:13-17)
- VI. Examples of Suffering (1 Peter 3:18-22)

A. Christ crucified (1 Peter 3:18)

- 1. Your ultimate example of how to respond in the midst of suffering is _____.
- 2. Christ died _____ for _____.
- 3. Christ _____ unfairly to bring us something good ... _____!

B. Noah protected (1 Peter 3:19-21)

* Who was Satan attempting to stop?

☐ The coming _____!

- 1. Christ is preaching to the _____ who sinned in Noah's day in between His death and resurrection.
- 2. These were incarcerated _____ connected with Noah's day.
- 3. God waited _____ while all this was happening.
- 4. Noah was a _____ during this time period.
- 5. During this time, there could have been over ____ billion people on Earth.

Key Verse: 1 Peter 3:21-22

Key Words: Baptism of Suffering, Righteousness, Victory, Hope, Antitype

- a. Yet only ____ were _____.
6. Peter uses the story of _____ to _____ us during our times of suffering.

C. The Supposed “Problem Passage” (1 Peter 3:21) [Thank you Pastor Tom Stegall]

1. When Peter says, “*baptism now saves us*,” we must ask—which of the seven New Testament _____ is he talking about?
2. We must also ask—**what** _____ **of salvation** does Peter mean?
 - a. Is he referring to _____ **deliverance** or _____ **salvation**?
 - b. And if spiritual, **which** _____ **of salvation**—past (justification), present (sanctification), or future (glorification)?

D. The PROOFS for the Baptism of Suffering View

1. Before writing his first epistle, Peter already understood the **necessity and eternal value** of sharing in Christ’s _____ (1 Peter 4:13). He learned this truth directly from:
2. The **necessity and eternal value of suffering** is a dominant _____ throughout 1 Peter.
3. In the phrase “*there is also an antitype which*” (Greek *ho...antitypon*), the relative pronoun “*which*” does **not** point narrowly to the *water* of v20. Instead, it refers to something _____—**Noah’s entire experience of suffering, deliverance, and vindication** (cf. 2 Peter 2:5, 9). Peter’s focus, then, is not on the water itself, but on the pattern of God’s saving work **through suffering and perseverance**.
 - a. Noah and his family weren’t saved _____ the water; they were saved _____ it—**by the ark** God provided.
4. When Peter says “*baptism now saves us*,” he is **not** referring to his readers’ _____ **salvation** or to a **one-time act of water baptism**. The verb “*saves*” (*sōzei*) is in the _____ **tense**, indicating an ongoing work—**God’s present deliverance of believers through suffering**, part of their **sanctification** and daily walk of faith in the Christian life.
5. God uses _____ to teach us our need for Him and to deepen our dependence on His strength (2 Corinthians 12:9–10).
 - a. Through these trials, we learn to **share in the sufferings of Christ** (1 Peter 4:13–16)—walking by _____ (Hebrews 11:6–7) in _____ with Him (*koinōneō*), and being **filled with the Holy Spirit** (1 Peter 4:13–14).
 - b. This is how God accomplishes our **sanctification**—by His _____, through a daily walk of faith and fellowship. **God produces the fruit** by His Spirit; we simply **bear** what He brings forth in our lives (Romans 15:13; Galatians 5:16; Ephesians 5:18; 1 John 1:3–10).
6. In 1 Peter 3:21, Peter uses the word “*baptism*” (“*baptism now saves us*”) _____—referring to our **immersion into or identification with Christ’s sufferings** (Acts 9:4–5; 1 Corinthians 12:26–27; Colossians 1:24).

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- a. This interpretation fits perfectly with Peter's **vivid writing style**, marked by his frequent use of _____ (around 27–28 times) and _____ (9 times) throughout the letter.
7. Peter adds the clarifying statement, "*not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God*," to show that in v21 he is **no longer referring to the** _____ mentioned in v20.
 - a. Instead, he's speaking of a "_____" **baptism**—our spiritual identification with Christ's sufferings.
 - b. Peter is **not including water** in the sense of saying, "water baptism now saves us," but rather contrasting outward cleansing with the **inner response of faith and a** _____ **conscience before God**.
8. In v21, the phrase "*the answer [eperōtēma] of a good conscience toward God*" refers, in context, to **believers who suffer while doing God's will** and maintain a _____ **conscience** before Him.
 - a. This "_____" is likely **non-verbal**—expressed through a life of faithful endurance and obedience (see 1 Peter 2:21–23; 3:1, 5; 4:19; cf. Isaiah 53:7; 1 Samuel 16:7)—rather than a **spoken confession** or a **public pledge** made at water baptism.
9. The phrase "*through the resurrection of Jesus Christ*" at the end of v21 is **not** describing what **water baptism** _____—such as co-resurrection with Christ.
 - a. Instead, Peter is highlighting the _____ **in Christ's progression**: from **suffering and death** (v18), to His **proclamation in the spirit realm** (v19), to His **resurrection** (v21), and finally to His **ascension and exaltation** (v22).
 - b. Peter's purpose is to _____ **believers**—just as Christ's suffering was followed by glory, so our own suffering for His sake will also lead to **vindication and reward**.

E. Christ Ascended (1 Peter 3:22)

1. Like **Noah**, **Jesus** endured **extreme** _____ from a hostile world.
 2. Yet His suffering was **momentary** compared to _____.
 3. Just as Noah was _____ after his trial, so Christ was _____ through His resurrection and ascension.
- ❓ What can we learn from the sufferings of Noah and of Christ?
- ❓ Christ's sufferings were **severe—but** _____, followed by **glory**.
 - ❓ Noah's sufferings were **severe—but** _____, followed by **vindication**.
 - ❓ **Our suffering in Christ is also** _____, **—glory is coming**.

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