

Living in Exile: “Suffering Unjustly”

1 Peter 2:18-25

1 Peter 2:18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. ¹⁹ For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

BI: Jesus is our pattern to follow in [suffering](#).

- I. “Servants” & “masters” – red flag, this needs explanation (v. 18).
- II. Suffering – we need to learn from Jesus’ [pattern](#) (vv. 19-21).

Jesus

- III. Isaiah 52-53 Prophesied and fulfilled (vv. 22-25).

Application in Community

Welcome: Grace is a place to belong. If you would like to get connected in our community, ask for Tia Hanson at the Information Center or email her at tieah@gracechurchseattle.org or give us a call 206.937.8400.

Application Questions:

- 1) Have you ever suffered or seen someone suffer unjustly? Would you like to share the story? How you responded?

Read 1 Peter 2:18 – the “servant-master” relationship in the first century was not like the 18th-19th centuries: it was not based in race, many servants were doctors, nurses, teachers, musicians, artisans, etc., these people were both laborers and the skilled workforce of the first century. One was either a wealthy property owner, in the military, a member of a guild, or a servant working for those of the above. And thus, the closest modern equivalent to a servant today is an employee with a contract that one cannot get out of unless they bought their own freedom.

This being said – not every master was kind (just as not every boss, today, is kind) – and so the question people were asking was:

- **“Peter, if I have an unkind master who treats me poorly, how should I respond in a Christlike manner?”**
- 2) Flesh out Peter’s response and how this might apply to us if we ever faced a similar situation today (walk through vv. 19-25).
 - 3) Related to question #1 – how do you think that you (or any Christian in that situation) could respond like Christ as we read about in this passage?
 - 4) Spend some time in prayer that our hearts conform to Christ’s pattern.

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