

# Finding Joy in the Trial

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; <sup>13</sup> but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. <sup>14</sup> If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed *are you*, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. <sup>15</sup> But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. <sup>16</sup> Yet if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.

<sup>17</sup> For the time *has come* for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup> Now "If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?" <sup>19</sup> Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to *Him* in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

1 Peter 4:12-19

## Reflections on the passage

### 1) EXPECT sufferings

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, **do not think it strange** concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;

### 2) REJOICE now for EXCEEDING JOY later

<sup>13</sup> **but rejoice** to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, **you may also be glad with exceeding joy.**

<sup>15</sup> and consider *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation.  
2 Peter 3:15

### 3) KNOW you belong to Christ if you suffer for Him

<sup>14</sup> If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed *are you*, **for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.**

<sup>3</sup> Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in

any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

### 4) PRAISE GOD through the sufferings

<sup>16</sup> Yet if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but **let him glorify God in this matter.**

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms.

James 5:13

### 5) Your SUFFERING is someone else's blessing

<sup>17</sup> For the time *has come* for **judgment to begin at the house of God;** and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?

<sup>24</sup> I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,

Colossians 1:24

For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are* all things and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Hebrews 2:10

### 6) LEARN the lesson in the TRIAL

<sup>19</sup> Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God **commit their souls to Him in doing good,** as to a faithful Creator.

<sup>2</sup> My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, <sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. <sup>4</sup> But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

James 1:2-4

Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

1 Peter 4:1