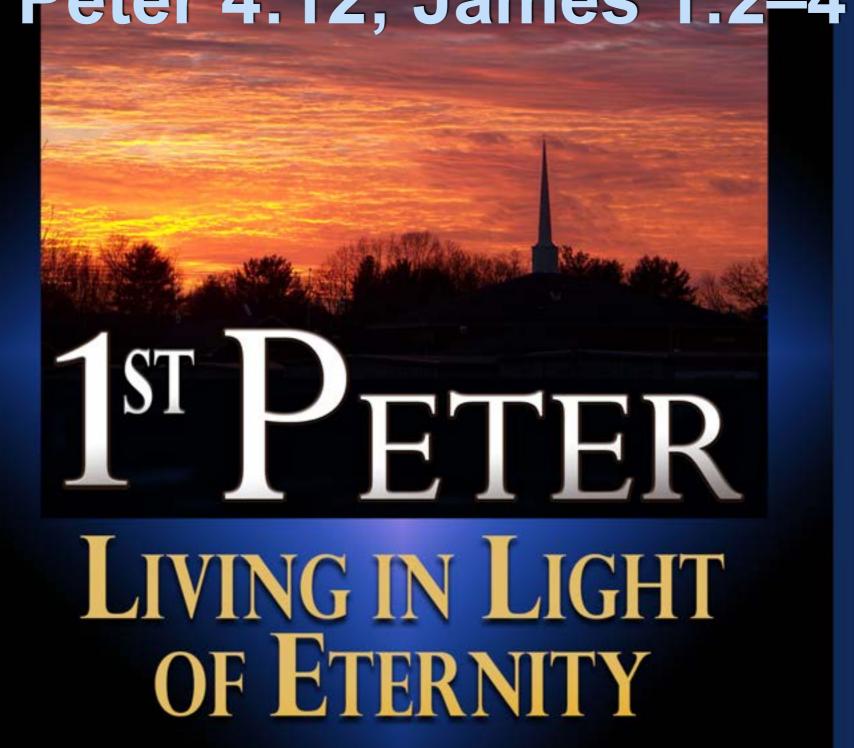
1 Peter Series
Lesson #137
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Standing in Grace: Testing What You Have Learned 1 Peter 4:12; James 1:2–4



- 1. Stand in grace by girding up the loins of your mind and thinking objectively based on the truth of the revelation of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 1:13–2:10
- 2. Stand in grace by humble obedience to even unjust authorities. 1 Peter 2:11–3:12
- 3. Stand in grace by focusing on how Jesus suffered unjustly for our sin. 1 Peter 3:13–4:11

**Everybody faces adverse circumstances, failure, heartache in this life to one degree or another.

**We are corrupt people living with corrupt people in a corrupt world.

John 1:5, "And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it."

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John 1:9, "That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world."

John 3:19, "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

John 3:20, "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

John 3:21, "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

**The only hope to survive and to flourish in this situation is to have a hope and reality which is based on something or Someone eternal, righteous, loving, and perfect outside of this framework of corruption, who controls and can eventually defeat and destroy this corruption.

Introduction

Living in light of eternity means we can rejoice in the midst of the present trial because our love for God enables us to focus on the glories to come; 1:3-12

Conclusion

Living in light of eternity is based on humility and standing in God's grace even through unjust suffering that we might receive eternal rewards to the glory of God; 4:12-5

Conclusion

1 Pet. 4:12, "Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;

1 Pet. 4:13, "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."

1 Pet. 4:14, "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.

1 Pet. 4:15, "But let none of you SUFFER as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters.

1 Pet. 4:16, "Yet if anyone SUFFERS as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him GLORIFY God in this matter."

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In 1 Pet. 4:12 Peter states two key things:

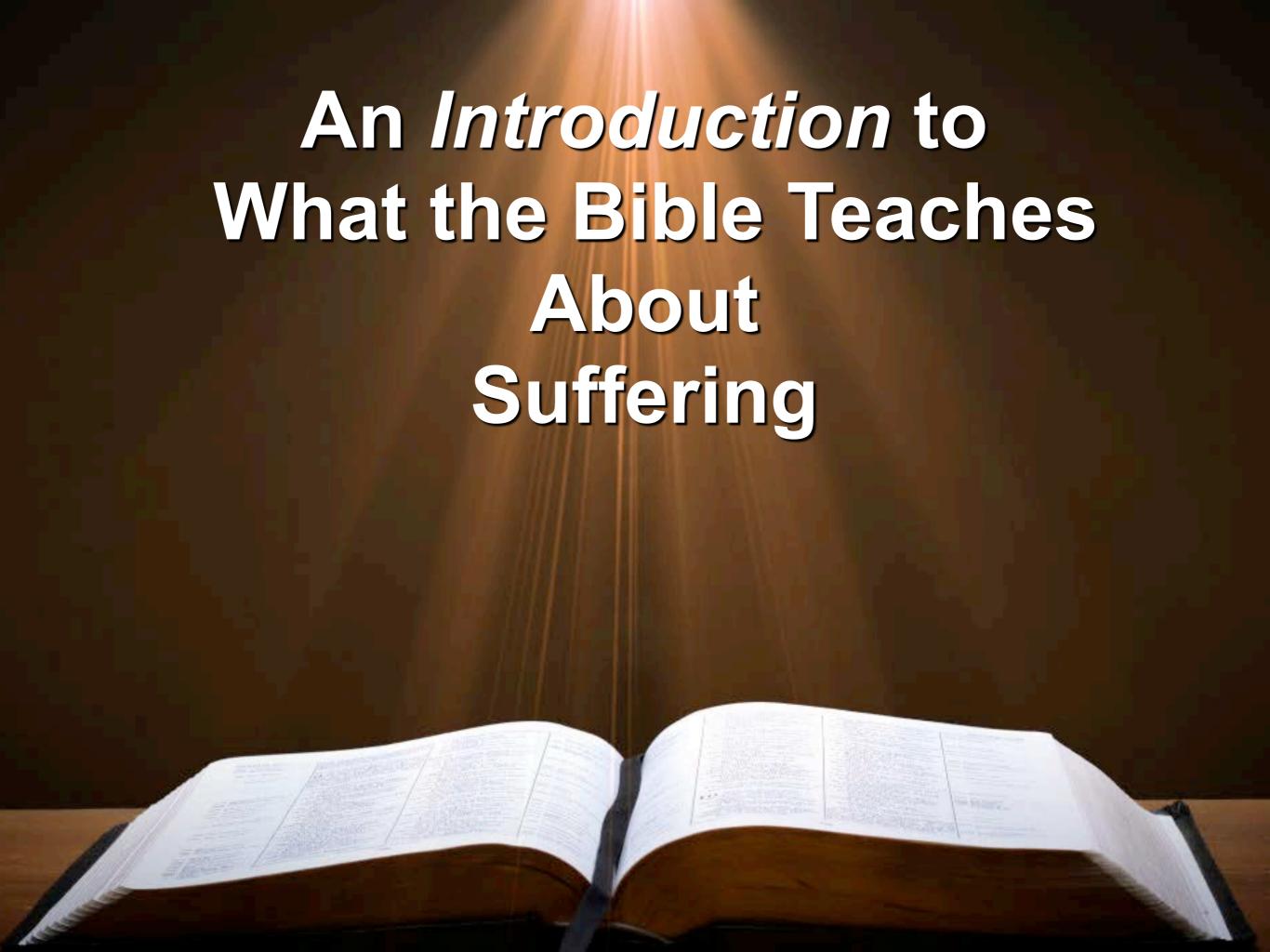
1. Facing suffering for our belief in Jesus should not be a surprise.

"do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you"

In 1 Pet. 4:12 Peter states two key things:

2. When the believer suffers for his belief and obedience to Jesus it is a source of blessing which will reverberate through eternity.

1 Pet. 4:14, "If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you."



1. Different categories of suffering:

Deserved suffering, undeserved suffering;

or another way:

suffering for blessing or suffering for judgment

2. Deserved suffering:

We suffer because we are sinners and we face the consequences of our own bad decisions.

3. Undeserved suffering:

a. We suffer because we are associated intimately and directly with sinners who make bad decisions. This is suffering by association.

3. Undeserved suffering:

b. We suffer because we live in a fallen world. This is Satan's cosmic system and you as a believer are the enemy and the particular target of Satan's schemes.

Job 5:7, "Yet man is born to trouble, as the sparks fly upward."

Job 14:1, "Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble."

4. When the believer is walking by the Holy Spirit all suffering is for blessing—even suffering originally designed for discipline or that is the result of our own bad decisions.

5. Suffering that begins as discipline, can become suffering for blessing when we confess the sin and begin to walk by the Spirit. Illustration is David.

Psa. 51:1-5; Psa. 32:1-7

6. No matter the failure, God's grace provides recovery and the solution to every problem, converting suffering for discipline into suffering for blessing.

7. We will all face hard and difficult times. This is the new normal after the Fall, but it is abnormal for God's plan.

8. God always provides the solution.

1 Cor. 10:13, "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

James 1:3, "knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

James 1:4, "But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

James 1:3, "knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

ἡγέομαι hēgeomai aor mid impera 2 plur to think, reason, consider, count, regard

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χαρά chara
acc fem sing
A mental
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James 1:2, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, James 1:3, "knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience"

ηγέομαι hēgeomai aor mid impera 2 plur A mental attitude of to think, reason, consider, count, regard

χαρά chara acc fem sing happiness, contentment, stability, and joy

πειρασμός peirasmos dat masc plur temptation, test Choices to obey or disobey include the enticement to disobey

James 1:3, "knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

γινώσκω *ginōskō* pres act <u>part</u> masc plur nom causal participle: because you came to know ... "to know, come to know, recognize"

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1 Pet. 1:6, "In this you greatly <u>rejoice</u>, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various <u>trials</u>,

1 Pet. 1:7, "that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,"

James 1:3, "knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

γινώσκω *ginōskō* pres act <u>part</u> masc plur nom causal participle: because you came to know ... "to know, come to know, recognize"

δοκίμιον *dokimion*nom neut sing
evaluation for approval (not to expose the failure)

πίστις *pistis* gen fem sing "faith, belief, trust;" value; proof. Your set of beliefs, what you believe.