

1 Peter 4:12-19

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; ¹³ but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

¹⁵ Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler; ¹⁶ but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ AND IF IT IS WITH DIFFICULTY THAT THE RIGHTEOUS IS SAVED, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GODLESS MAN AND THE SINNER? ¹⁹ Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.

Sermon Notes
November 10, 2013
T. Don Guthrie, preaching

Almost Home: Christians in a time of persecution **1 Peter 4:12-19**

A tense and dangerous time

Nero burned Rome and blamed Christians (July 9, 64 AD)

Peter's resistance to this idea – John 15:22

Follow Christ...life gets better and it gets worse

- 1) Don't be surprised (v. 12)
- 2) Know that you are not alone (v. 13)
- 3) Look forward (v. 13)
- 4) Let the Spirit be your compensation (v. 14)
- 5) Make sure it is not you (v. 15)
- 6) Understand God's purpose (v. 17)
- 7) Trust (v. 19)
- 8) Don't break unity along generational lines (v. 5:5)
- 9) Resist the Devil (Humble to God, v. 5:6-8)
- 10) Remember that suffering is 'only a little while' (v. 5:10)

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

¹⁷ For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.