



Week 10

Sermon Series: Sojourners & Exiles: 1 Peter

Sermon Title: What Do We Expect?

Sermon Text: 1 Peter 4:12-19

Group Week of: November 6, 2022

Sermon Date: November 13, 2022

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	The Fiery Ordeal – Daniel 3:1-30
Day 2	Rejoicing in Persecution – Matt 5:3-12
Day 3	Participation with Christ – Phil 4:7-14
Day 4	Insulted for Christ – John 15:18-25
Day 5	God’s Love in Suffering – Rom 8:31-39

¹² Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵ If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. ¹⁶ However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin with God’s household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And,

“If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

¹⁹ So then, those who suffer according to God’s will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message God and Peter are speaking to the church in Asia Minor (and to you) through this passage?
- 2) How can a believer rejoice in suffering?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) How much do you want to know Christ? Do you want to know about Him? Do you want to know Him personally? If knowing Christ required you to suffer as He suffered, would you still want to know Christ?
- 2) Is it possible to know Christ apart from participation with His suffering? Read Philippians 3:7-14. Then, answer this question, and discuss with your life group.
- 3) Peter tells us not to be surprised, but to rejoice when fiery trials come upon us. How have you responded to fiery trials in the past? With surprise? With joy? Or with something else? Explain how you have responded and why.
- 4) Peter reminds us that those who are insulted for the name of Christ are blessed (v. 14). Why is one blessed if they are insulted for the name of Christ? Secondly, if you are insulted or suffer for the name of Christ tomorrow, would you feel blessed? Why or why not?
- 5) When a believer suffers for Christ on this earth, how do you think God reacts in heaven based on this text? Could it be possible for God to be pleased and yet hate our suffering at the same time?
- 6) From where is the believer to draw the strength to endure suffering for the sake of Christ? What is the role of the rest of the body when we see a member suffering?
- 7) Peter expects that suffering be done according to God's will. What is the difference between suffering for God's will and not suffering for God's will? How can you tell the difference between the two?
- 8) If you have come to believe that you are suffering for God's will, how does entrusting yourself to your Creator (1 Peter 4:19) enable you to continue to do good? How do you continue to follow a God who wills you to suffer for His name?