

# Message Notes

## How to Stand Firm when Your Faith Is on Trial 1 Peter 4:12-19

September 2, 2007

### 3 Types of Suffering

1) \_\_\_\_\_ suffering

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

2) \_\_\_\_\_ suffering

*7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. Galatians 6:7 NKJV*

3) \_\_\_\_\_ suffering

*10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:10 NKJV*

### How to Stand Firm for Christ

1. REALIZE that suffering is \_\_\_\_\_

*12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; (v.12)*

*27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. 28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it— Luke 14:27,28 NKJV*

33 So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. Luke 14:33 NKJV

20 Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you.' John 15:20a NKJV

12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12 NKJV

## 2. \_\_\_\_\_ when it happens

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. (v. 13)

"Rejoice" means to look \_\_\_\_\_ the circumstances and \_\_\_\_\_ to have a good attitude.

## 3 Reasons to Rejoice

1) Suffering \_\_\_\_\_ to God

... extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings,

10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, Philippians 3:10 NKJV

2) Christ \_\_\_\_\_ in my life

14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. (v.14a)

3) God can \_\_\_\_\_

*On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. (v.14b)*

**3. REFUSE to be** \_\_\_\_\_

*16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter. (v.16)*

**\*\*\* How you respond when you're personally \_\_\_\_\_ is a powerful \_\_\_\_\_**

*And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Acts 11:26c NKJV*

**4. REMEMBER there is a** \_\_\_\_\_

*6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 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, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:6-9 NKJV*

*For our present troubles are quite small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last forever! 2 Corinthians 4:17 NLT*

*17 Now if we are (God's) children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. Romans 8:17 NIV*

5. \_\_\_\_\_ **faithful to God**

1) The alternative is a \_\_\_\_\_

*17 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? (v.17)*

2) The outcome is a \_\_\_\_\_

*19 Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator. (v.19)*

Why do we struggle to stand firm for Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

The Anti-dote:

1) You don't need the \_\_\_\_\_ in order to be happy in life.

2) Be more concerned about \_\_\_\_\_ than what other people think.

*7He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son. Revelation 21:7 NKJV*