

Rejoicing In Suffering I Peter 4:12-19

1 Peter 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;

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.

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.

15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters.

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

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?

18 Now "If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

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.

(NKJV)

Matthew 5

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

12 "Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

1 Samuel 30

6 Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.

Jeremiah 1

4 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

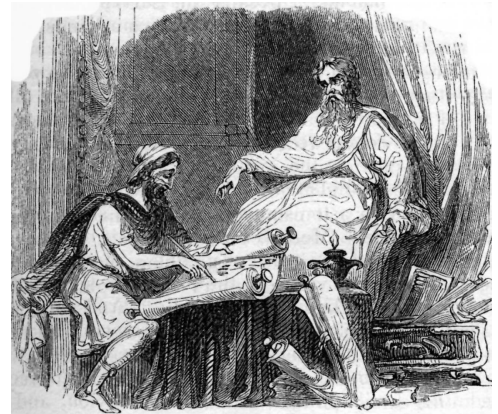
6 Then said I: "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth."

7 But the LORD said to me: "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' For you shall go to all to whom I send you, And whatever I command you, you shall speak.

8 Do not be afraid of their faces, For I am with you to deliver you," says the LORD.

9 Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

10 See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant."



Lamentations 3

1 I am the man who has seen affliction by the rod of His wrath.

2 He has led me and made me walk In darkness and not in light.

3 Surely He has turned His hand against me Time and time again throughout the day.

4 He has aged my flesh and my skin, And broken my bones.

5 He has besieged me And surrounded me with bitterness and woe.

6 He has set me in dark places Like the dead of long ago.

7 He has hedged me in so that I cannot get out; He has made my chain heavy.

8 Even when I cry and shout, He shuts out my prayer.

9 He has blocked my ways with hewn stone; He has made my paths crooked.

10 He has been to me a bear lying in wait, Like a lion in ambush.

11 He has turned aside my ways and torn me in pieces; He has made me desolate.

12 He has bent His bow And set me up as a target for the arrow.

13 He has caused the arrows of His quiver To pierce my loins.

14 I have become the ridicule of all my people-Their taunting song all the day.

15 He has filled me with bitterness, He has made me drink wormwood.

16 He has also broken my teeth with gravel, And covered me with ashes.

17 You have moved my soul far from peace; I have forgotten prosperity.

18 And I said, "My strength and my hope Have perished from the LORD."

19 Remember my affliction and roaming, The wormwood and the gall.

20 My soul still remembers And sinks within me.

21 ¶ This I recall to my mind, Therefore I have hope.

22 Through the LORD'S mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not.

23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

24 "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!"

25 The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him.

26 It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the LORD.

27 It is good for a man to bear The yoke in his youth.

28 Let him sit alone and keep silent, Because God has laid it on him;

29 Let him put his mouth in the dust-There may yet be hope.

30 Let him give his cheek to the one who strikes him, And be full of reproach.

31 For the Lord will not cast off forever.

32 Though He causes grief, Yet He will show compassion According to the multitude of His mercies.

33 For He does not afflict willingly, Nor grieve the children of men.

34 To crush under one's feet All the prisoners of the earth,

35 To turn aside the justice due a man Before the face of the Most High,

36 Or subvert a man in his cause-The Lord does not approve.

37 Who is he who speaks and it comes to pass, When the Lord has not commanded it?

38 Is it not from the mouth of the Most High That woe and well-being proceed?

39 Why should a living man complain, A man for the punishment of his sins?

40 Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the LORD;

41 Let us lift our hearts and hands To God in heaven.

(NKJV)

