

## Trial By Fire

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1 PETER 4:12-19

### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



In this section of Chapter 4, Peter returns to the idea of trials. It is one thing to suffer in the face of trials when a person has done something to deserve the suffering. God does not see any benefit in suffering when someone deserves it. However, there are those that are suffering for being a Christian. These people are the ones that God will bless. This morning we will talk about the confidence that comes from suffering unjustly and maintaining faith. We will answer the question, how should I view the trials in my life that come because of my faith?



## **① EXAMINE His Word**

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the passage.

### **Read I Peter 4:12-19 (NET)**

<sup>12</sup> Dear friends, do not be astonished that a trial by fire is occurring among you, as though something strange were happening to you.

<sup>13</sup> But rejoice in the degree that you have shared in the sufferings of Christ, so that when his glory is revealed you may also rejoice and be glad.

<sup>14</sup> If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory, who is the Spirit of God, rests on you.

<sup>15</sup> But let none of you suffer as a murderer or thief or criminal or as a troublemaker.

<sup>16</sup> But if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but glorify God that you bear such a name.

<sup>17</sup> For it is time for judgment to begin, starting with the house of God. And if it starts with us, what will be the fate of those who are disobedient to the gospel of God?

<sup>18</sup> And if the righteous are barely saved, what will become of the ungodly and sinners?

<sup>19</sup> So then let those who suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator as they do good.

## **②EXPLORE His Word**

What does God MEAN?

1. Why does God have us face trials?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How are we blessed by insults and trials?

3. a. What is the difference between suffering as a Christian and suffering as a murderer or thief or criminal?  
  
  
  
  
b. For what reason would you be willing to suffer as a Christian?
  
4. Where do we find comfort in the face of suffering?
  
  
  
5. When is it hardest to endure suffering?
  
  
  
  
  
6. How can we help people who are in the midst of suffering?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Often non-believers experience suffering even though they are not a murderer or criminal or thief. How can we share the Good News of a sovereign God who has created a world full of suffering for all people?

### **③ EMBRACE His Word**

Why does this MATTER to me?

### **Summarize your thoughts on the passage:**

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

### **SERMON NOTES**