



“Normal”
Partaking of Sufferings
I Peter 4:12-19

Believers suffer but we:

I. Recognize - “the fiery trial which is to try you” (vs. 12-14)

We can:

- A. Anticipate** - “think it not strange”
- B. Associate** - “as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings”
- C. Appreciate** - “happy are ye...He is glorified”

II. Rationalize - “If any suffer as a Christian” (vs. 15-16)

We consider the:

- A. Reason** - “let none of you suffer...as an evil doer”
- B. Reproach** - “let him not be ashamed”
- C. Response** - “let him glorify God on this behalf”

III. Realize - “that suffer according to the will of God” (vs. 17- 19)

We choose our:

- A. Suffering** - “it first begin at us, what shall...be of them”
- B. Standing** - “where shall the...sinner appear”
- C. Security** - “let them commit...their souls to Him”

Sentence Sermon:

“To be associated with Jesus Christ is to be a partaker of His sufferings.”

Additional Verses

- *John 16:33*
- *II Timothy 3:12*
- *Proverbs 11:31*
- *John 15:18-25*
- *James 1:2*
- *I Peter 1:7-8*
- *Job 23:10*
- *Matthew 10:17*
- *Philippians 1:29; 3:10*
- *Romans 8:1*
- *II Corinthians 5:21*
- *Acts 6:15; 7:55-56*

Questions to Ponder:

1. What are the key words in this passage?
2. Who is the central character of the passage?
3. How should we think of fiery trials if they are not “strange?”
4. Why would we rejoice in being partakers in Christ sufferings?
5. Why is the “name” of Christ so provocative?
6. How can we glorify the name of Christ?
7. What is a busybody and why is it listed with murderers?
8. What does it mean to suffer “as a Christian?”
9. How are the righteous “scarcely saved?”
10. Where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?
11. How can we commit the keeping of our souls unto a faithful Creator?
12. Who/What is Peter contrasting throughout this passage?