



ENDURE

1 Peter 3:13-17

“Be prepared to suffer, and do not think it strange when it comes. If you are walking in the path of righteousness, you may expect opposition; but fear not, for the Lord is with you. Let your life be such that men may see your good works, and if they speak against you, they shall be ashamed. Be ready always to give an answer for the hope that is in you, but let it be with meekness and fear, for harsh words and proud spirits do not commend the gospel.” (Charles Spurgeon, *Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*)

“Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.” (1 Peter 4:12-14)

Big Idea: Believers can _____ because it gives us the opportunity to _____ the gospel.

Believers need to be ready to _____ for the truth (1 Peter 3:13-14).

- We need to understand that being zealous for what is good may lead to _____ (1 Peter 3:14, Matthew 5:10-12).
- God will _____ those who suffer for righteousness' sake (1 Peter 3:14, Luke 21:16-19).
- We need to fear _____ more than people (1 Peter 3:14, Luke 12:5).

Believers need to be ready to give a reason for the _____ that we have (1 Peter 3:15)

- We must honor Christ as Lord in our _____ (1 Peter 3:15, Colossians 1:18, Isaiah 8:12-13).
- We must be able to present the _____ clearly but with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:18, Colossians 4:6).

Believers need to be active in _____ the world around them (1 Peter 3:16-17).

- We should strive to maintain a clear _____ (1 Peter 3:16).
- We should live a life of _____ and _____ (1 Peter 3:16, 1 Peter 2:19-24).
- God has a _____ in allowing Christians to suffer for doing good (1 Peter 3:17-18, Romans 12:1-2).

Takeaways:

- The Christian life is not about avoiding difficulties or trials, but about living a life of _____ and _____ through them (John 15:18, 2 Timothy 3:12, Hebrews 13:18).
- When believers respond rightly to suffering, they become a powerful _____ to the world.