

How to Face Fiery Trials Encouraging Words Series #9

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June 6, 2010

I Peter 4:12-19 (NT page 182)

Three Kinds of Suffering:

- ✓ “Common” suffering – because I am a _____ being
- ✓ “Carnal” suffering – because I _____
- ✓ “Christian” suffering – because I am a _____

What to Do When You Suffer

1. _____ it is inevitable. (v. 12) *Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;*

“Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A slave is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also. John 15:20

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12

2. _____. (vs. 13,14)

¹³*but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.*

¹⁴*If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.*

_____ = get pleasure out of something

_____ = choosing to have a positive attitude

Joy is a _____.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Philippians 4:4

“One filled with joy preaches without preaching.” Mother Teresa

“The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up.” Mark Twain

By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who is unseen. Hebrews 11:27

¹*Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,*

²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

³For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:1-3

Reasons to rejoice:

- ✓ Suffering draws me _____ to God.
- ✓ God can be _____ in me.
- ✓ God can _____ me.

So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.
Acts 5:41

3. _____ your life. (v. 15) *Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler;*

4. _____ to be ashamed. (v. 16) *but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.*

The word "Christian" is found only three times in New Testament.

Acts 11:26

Acts 26:28

5. _____ the reward I will receive. (vs. 17,18)

¹⁷*For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?*

¹⁸**AND IF IT IS WITH DIFFICULTY THAT THE RIGHTEOUS IS SAVED, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GODLESS MAN AND THE SINNER?**

For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, II Corinthians 4:17

and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

Romans 8:17

6. _____ faithful to God. (v. 19) *Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.*

Entrust (_____ term) = to deposit for safe keeping

For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day. II Timothy 1:12

Commitment – not a single action, but constant _____

God is more interested in your _____ than your comfort.

“ _____ determine destiny.” Frederick Speckman