

Prepared to Suffer

1 Peter 3:13-17

1. How to _____ Suffering (v. 13)
 - a. Become an _____ of good
 - b. Make it _____ to be mistreated
2. How to Suffer _____ (v. 14-17)
 - a. Remember your _____ (Matt. 5:10)
 - b. Remember proper _____
 - i. Not _____ the persecutors
 - ii. Not _____ the persecutors
 - iii. Fear _____ (2:17)
 - c. Always _____
 - i. To _____ who ask
 - ii. With a verbal _____
 - iii. About your _____
 - iv. With _____
 - d. Having a good _____
 - i. Despite _____
 - ii. Looking to Christ's _____
(Colossians 2:15)
 - iii. Submitting to God's _____

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:10)

"He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him." (Colossians 2:17)

For Further Study

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1 Peter 3:13-17

According to the rhetorical question in verse 13, what do we humanly expect when we do what is right?

Read Proverbs 10:2-16.

1. Even many Christians assume that doing what is right will get you what in life?
2. Is Peter, then, being a fatalist or a realist in verse 14?

Read Matthew 5:10-12.

1. Does Jesus (and Scripture) ever suggest that doing what is right will keep us from suffering?
2. Jesus says that suffering persecution is not only a possibility but is consistent with what historical examples?
3. Those who suffer thus have what benefit?

Read James 5:10-11.

1. Why does James say we consider the prophets blessed?
2. How would the prophets have remained "steadfast?"

Read Hebrews 11:32-38.

1. Did the first part of this passage tell us merely about people who never suffered persecution for their faith?
2. What variety of outcomes did these men and women of faith have?
3. Why was the world "not worthy" of them?

Read 2 Timothy 2:24-26.

1. Peter does not just talk about an answer but a classical "apology," that is a verbal defense. What is the suffering believer ready to "defend?"
2. What is the hope for the one questioning?
3. What difference does "gentleness" make in both texts?