

“Feed My Sheep” 1st and 2nd Peter

Lesson #6 Suffering for Christ

1 Peter 2:21 (NKJV) *For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps.*

The words “suffer and suffering” appears 16 times in 1 & 2 Peter more than any other bible book.

Genesis 3:15 (NKJV) *And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”*

Genesis 3:16 *To the woman He said: “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; **In pain you shall bring forth children;** Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you.”*

Persecution of Early Christians

Great persecutions under emperors Nero (AD 54–68) and Domitian [do-mission] (AD 81–96).

Acts 18:2 (NKJV) *And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla (because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome); and he came to them.*

1 Peter 1:6 (NKJV) *In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,*

***1 Peter 5:10** (NKJV) *But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.*

Revelation 2:10 (NKJV) *Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.*

1 Peter 4:12–13 (NKJV) *Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; ¹³ but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.*

Matthew 10:28 *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

Suffering and the Example of Christ **1 Peter 3:13–22**

Matthew 10:24-25. *“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household! **Some suffering is physical some is verbal.***

Matthew 5:10-12 *Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

“Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

***Matthew 17:12** *But I say to you that Elijah has come already, and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished.*

Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands.”

Hebrews 2:9, 10 *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.*

Bringing Many Sons to Glory. For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

The Fiery Trial

1 Peter 4:12-14. *Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.*

Malachi 3:1–3 (NKJV) *“Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” Says the Lord of hosts.*

² *“But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire And like launderers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the Lord An offering in righteousness.*

Job 23:10 (NKJV) *But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.*

2 Timothy 3:12 (NKJV) *Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.*

- “So it will be with all who live godly in Christ Jesus. Persecution and reproach await all who are imbued with the Spirit of Christ. The character of the persecution changes with the times, but the principle—the spirit that underlies it—is the same that has slain the chosen of the Lord ever since the days of Abel.”—The Acts of the Apostles, p. 576.

John 15:20-21 *Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant 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. But all these things they will do to you for My name’s sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me.*

Revelation 12:17 *And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

***Matthew 24:9** *“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake.*

Isaiah 42:2 *When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you.*

Judgment and the People of God

1 Peter 4:17–19 (NKJV) *For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ Now “If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?” ¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.*

Ezekiel 9:5–6 (NKJV) ⁵ *To the others He said in my hearing, “Go after him through the city and kill; do not let your eye spare, nor have any pity. ⁶ Utterly slay old and young men, maidens and little children and women; but do not come near anyone on whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary.” So they began with the elders who were before the temple.*

Isaiah 10:11 *As I have done to Samaria and her idols, Shall I not do also to Jerusalem and her idols?’ ”*

John 8:7 (NKJV) *“He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.”*

Luke 18:1–8 (NKJV) *Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, ² saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. ³ Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ ⁴ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, ⁵ yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’ ” ⁶ Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. ⁷ And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? ⁸ I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”*

Faith Amid Trials

Hebrews 11:24–26 (NKJV) *By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.*

***Job 2:7** (NKJV) *So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.*

Hebrews 11:35–36 (NKJV) *Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment.*

2 Corinthians 11:23–28 (NKJV) *Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. ²⁴ From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; ²⁶ in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; ²⁷ in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—²⁸ besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.*