

9 - SUFFERING AND THE NEW BIRTH – PART 2 (1 PETER 4:1-19)

I. A Proper Attitude Toward Suffering (1 Peter 4:1-6)

A. The Encouragement (1 Peter 4:1a)

- Peter encourages believers to have the same determined mindset as Jesus.

B. The Basis (1 Peter 4:1b-6)

1. It Encourages Obedience (1 Peter 4:1b-2)

- We must stop sinning as we identify ourselves with Jesus who died to sin.

2. We Have Engaged in Enough Sin (1 Peter 4:3)

- Peter tells us that we have spent enough time sinning before salvation.

3. The Reaction of the Lost (1 Peter 4:4-5)

- The unbelievers think it is strange that you no longer pursue sin in your life.
- This results in their speaking evil about believers.

4. The Hope of the Gospel (1 Peter 4:6)

- The gospel provides hope concerning the believer who has died.
- While they have faced judgment in this life, they are experiencing eternal life.

II. Proper Conduct in Suffering (1 Peter 4:7-11)

A. A Proper Perspective (1 Peter 4:7a)

- We are to place all things in proper perspective.
- We are to recognize that we are approaching the end of time.

B. Proper Conduct (1 Peter 4:7b-11)

1. Pray (1 Peter 4:7b)

- We are to be serious and watchful in our prayers.

2. Love (1 Peter 4:8)

- We need to be marked by an unconditional love toward each other.

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3. Hospitable (1 Peter 4:9)

- We are to willingly be hospitable to those in need without complaining.

4. Service (1 Peter 4:10-11a)

- We are to be faithful stewards of the spiritual gifts that God has entrusted us with.

5. God's Glory (1 Peter 4:11b)

- These actions on our part will result in God being glorified.

III. Proper Endurance in Suffering (1 Peter 4:12-19)

A. Grasping Reality (1 Peter 4:12)

- We are to come to grips with the reality that we will suffer.

B. The Call to Rejoice (1 Peter 4:13)

- We have joy when we recognize the privilege of suffering as Christ did.

C. The Blessing (1 Peter 4:14)

- When we suffer for our faith, we will be blessed because God is glorified.

D. The Warning (1 Peter 4:15)

- Peter warns believers not to suffer for their sinful behavior.

E. The Proper Attitude (1 Peter 4:16)

- We should not be ashamed about our suffering, but rather have joy.

F. God's Discipline (1 Peter 4:17-18)

- Suffering purifies the lives of God's people.
- Peter points out that the lost will face greater disciplinary action.

G. The Call to Commitment (1 Peter 4:19)

- Those who suffer must commit their lives to Creator through their actions.