

Treated like Christ

1 Peter 4:12-19

Fitting In

What should we tell ourselves or others when we or they are rejected because of _____?

A Brief History of Time

Creation	Fall	Redemption	Restoration
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Matthew 13; 25:31-46; 13:48; Revelation 20:15

Peter and Persecution

John 18, 21; Acts 5, 12; Church tradition

Purpose of 1 Peter

That people would stand firm in _____ in spite of the difficulties it brought to be a Christian (_____)

Note: Suffering for being a Christian is more likely the _____ you are in the _____ hierarchy.

1 Peter 4:12-19

12-13: Suffering should bring _____ (now and later), not _____

John 15:18-20; 2 Timothy 3:12

Following a different _____ will bring conflict

Peter's focus: social _____ for obeying Jesus and being _____ with Him

Peter's descriptions of the suffering: "_____ persecution"

Would end if people stopped _____ Jesus, or stopped being visibly _____ with Jesus

Fiery ordeal: perhaps "_____ fire"

14-16: Only suffering "as a _____" guarantees joy

Spirit of _____ and of _____ rests upon sufferers

A special _____, and a special _____

No _____ in suffering for being illegal, immoral, rude, arrogant, judgmental, or wrong

Suffering rightly brings _____ to God John 21:19

17-18: Suffering is part of God's _____ & _____ people

So society's rejection can be a _____ sign

When rejected _____ of being connected with CHRIST, it confirms your identity _____

If suffering is a part of the _____ in our being saved (for Jesus and for us), how much worse it will eventually be for those who are not being saved!

Acts 14:22

19: Sufferers: _____ yourselves to your faithful Creator

Obedying Christ is an expression of _____ in Him

Boldly identifying oneself with Jesus is declaring His _____

1 Peter 2:23

The Big Idea:

Suffering for being a Christian shouldn't be surprising, and it is cause for joy and renewed strength for obeying Christ

Application:

Have the courage to be _____ as a Christian

Luke 6:26; Matthew 5:13; Romans 12:1-2

In our actions and words, _____ and _____ follow Jesus

Be distinctive as a _____ - _____

In _____

In _____

1 Peter 2:12

Rejoice in being _____ with Christ

Acts 5:41-42

Be assured of future joy with Jesus: when He comes in glory!

_____ joy becomes _____ joy by faith

Rejoice in the _____ of the Holy Spirit in suffering now

_____ with those who are persecuted

_____ from them

_____ them

_____ for them

Pray for _____, _____, and _____, as well as God's peace and presence by the Holy Spirit

1 Peter 1:7

Reflection Questions

- Where do you experience the threat of rejection because of obedience to and identification with Jesus Christ?
- Where are you tempted not to be distinctive as a Christian?
- What increases your courage to be distinctive as a Christian?