

Pastor Frank R. Johnson
Truth and Hope for Sojourners
“A Christian Response to Suffering” (1 Peter 4:12-19)

I. When we suffer as Christians, we _____ the sufferings of Christ. v. 12-13a.

1. Peter says, “Don’t be _____ when you suffer as followers of Jesus.” John 15:20

2. When we suffer as Jesus’ followers, we are entering into _____ sufferings. Philippians 3:10-11; Romans 6:1-5

II. When we suffer as Christians, it is to be a cause for _____, not sorrow. Vv. 13b-14, 16

1. We can _____ even in suffering, knowing that the glory of God will certainly come.
Psalm 30

2. There is a special _____ attached to the follower of Jesus who shares in His sufferings. See also Romans 8:18; Matthew 5:10-12; John 16:33; Philippians 3:10-11; Psalm 119:67-71; James 1:2-4.

III. When we suffer as Christians, it should be for righteousness, not _____. V. 15

Some kinds of suffering have nothing to do with our faith, but rather with our _____ actions.

IV. When we suffer as Christians, we recognize the ultimate judgment of _____. Vv. 16-18

1. There is no _____ in suffering “as a Christian,” but rather such suffering is a cause for glorifying God.

2. Followers of Jesus know that God is the ultimate _____ of behavior—whether good or bad.

3. Followers of Jesus also know that God holds His people to a higher _____ of behavior.

V. When we suffer as Christians, we commit ourselves to our faithful Creator and continue to do _____. V. 19

1. Note that Peter affirms that suffering can be “according to the _____ of God.”

2. When suffering comes within the will of God, we must be ready to _____ rightly: to “entrust [our] souls to a faithful Creator in doing good.”

Take it home (applications).