

***Man, that is born of a woman is of a few days and full of trouble***

**[Job 41:1]**

**“The Suffering of the Righteous”**

**suffer/suffering:** pathema-path-ay-mah}: something undergone i.e., hardship or pain an emotion or influence affection, affliction, motion.

{paskho}: to experience a sensation or impression usually painful, suffer, vex.

**Note:** for the believer, a life that is “full of trouble” may be the result of persecution, injustice, poverty, ill health, or Satan’s opposition to their fight of faith. God wants all believers who are suffering and oppressed on this earth to know that a day of resurrection and victory is coming when they will be with God forever. At that time, they will experience firsthand that “the suffering of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed.

### **I Peter the Epistle (Theme)**

**Purpose:** Peter wrote this letter of joyful hope to provide believers with a divine and eternal perspective on their earthly lives and to give practical guidance to those who were beginning to experience a fiery trial of suffering as Christians in a pagan environment. Peter was concerned that believers should not provoke governmental structures unnecessarily and that they should follow Jesus’ example in suffering innocently, righteously, and nobly.

**(Q): Why do we at times view those suffering as victims?**

**[I Peter 1:6-7]**

Note: The theme of this epistle of suffering is emphasized throughout this epistle. We are called to rejoice in our trials (vs.6), because remaining faithful to Christ in the midst them will purify our faith and result in praise, glory and honor both to us and to the Lord Jesus Christ at His coming. The Lord considers our perseverance through trials and our faith in Christ precious to Him throughout eternity

**(Q): According to this verse who can expect “suffer” in this life?**

**[I Peter 5:8-10]**

**Note:** [Perfect, Stablish, Strengthen, Settle]: The pain of suffering we experience is at times intentional and is intended to produce fruit, godly character as well as some God intended results.

**The promise of suffering [I Peter 4:12-13;15-19]:**

**(Q): What does God expect of us in trials, persecutions, afflictions and sufferings?**

**[James 1:2-4]: *My brethren count it all joy when ye fall into divers' temptation; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire wanting nothing.***

**[I Peter 5:7]: *casting all you care upon Him; for He cares for you.***

**Final Thought *for I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. [Romans 8:18]***

**Note:** All the sufferings of this present age-sickness, pain, misery, disappointments, poverty, mistreatment, sorrow, persecution and trouble of any kind must be considered insignificant when compared with the blessing, privileges and glory that will be given to the faithful believer in the age to come.