

# THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER

TO THE CHURCH OF THE DISPERSION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

1 PETER CHAPTER 4:1-6

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX974 FEBRUARY 3, 2019

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**“Suffering The Will Of God”**

The Ministry of The Grace of God Toward All Those Who Are Anchored in Christ.

## Congregational Reading

1 Peter 4:1-6

**1 Therefore**, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, **arm** yourselves also with **the same mind**, for he who **has suffered** in the flesh **has ceased** from sin, **2** that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for **the lusts of men**, but for **the will of God**.

**3** For we have spent **enough** of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles - **when we walked in lewdness**, (*walked in*) **lusts**, (*walked in*) **drunkenness**, (*walked in*) **revelries**, (*walked in*) **drinking parties**, and (*walked in*) **abominable idolatries**. **4** In regard to these, they think it **strange** that you do not **run with them** in the same flood of **dissipation**, speaking **evil** of you.

**5** They will give an **account** to Him who is ready to judge **the living** and **the dead**. **6** For this reason the Gospel was **preached** also to **those who are dead**, that they might be **judged** according to men in the **flesh**, but **live** according to God in the **spirit**.

## “Suffering The Realities of a Trip”

I appreciate it when the pilot gives his pre-flight briefing to us in the cabin. “Welcome aboard United Airlines, This is Captain America with the flight deck. Our trip today will take us up and over the Artic and then on to a southerly heading as we approach Tel Aviv from the North. We do expect light to moderate turbulence along the way – not to worry, as all of us upfront will see to it that your safety remains our greatest priority. Once again – welcome aboard!”

**I like to hear that. I like to hear that the pilot knows what’s happening and what’s gonna happen, and that he’s prepared for what most likely will not happen.**

## Suffering The Will Of God

1.) Having the right attitude about sin

vs. 1-2

### Suffering The Will Of God Is To Have The Right Attitude About Sin

1a.) Is to count the cost

vs. 1a

**1 Therefore**, since Christ suffered **for us** in the flesh,  
**ARM** yourselves also with **the same mind**, (attitude)

This “Therefore” demands that, what we are about to learn is predicated upon what has already been learned – mainly this...

Verse 18a

For Christ **also suffered once** for sins, the **just** for the **unjust**,

### “Victory” Guaranteed Based on the Facts

“Since Christ suffered for us in the flesh,  
Therefore, **ARM** yourselves also with the same mind” (attitude)

**Arm** grk: hoplizo; suit up. To make ready for battle. To strap on what’s needed to win.  
(Warfare. Hand to hand combat – with sin).

**Jesus is introduced to us as One having a warrior spirit.**

Peter is using word-pictures of a 1<sup>st</sup>. Century soldier,  
a Hoplon (grk root: Holite) to be exact.

**Peter is telling us that our Prototype, Role model, Jesus**  
approached His sufferings just like a warrior approaches the day of battle.

**Meaning - we need to adopt now a militant attitude**  
about sin and unrighteousness to the point of having a godly  
hatred for evil.

#### Jude 1:22-23 NLT

And you must show mercy to those whose faith is wavering. **23** Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. Show mercy to still others, but do so with great caution, **hating the sins that contaminate their lives.**

# **There is a Real and Present Danger Today**

among many church goers: There is little of the Fear of God.

(Your mindset, your Attitude toward Suffering determines your outcome)

## **Jesus Was Armed Against**

\* Armed against Satan himself. \* Against the demonic forces of hell.

\* He was armed against evil, pain, suffering and sorry!

**Jesus was Armed Against  
Religious Hypocrisy and Self-righteousness,**

**Attention All - - Here Comes an Attitude Challenge!!!**

### **John 12:31-33**

Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. **32** And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.” **33** This He said, signifying by what death He would die.

Jesus was Armed with Truth, Truth is what sets you free!

### **Luke 10:17-18**

Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.” :**18** And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

**Attitude Challenge – Can You Separate Identity from Choices?**

### **Ephesians 5:3-7 NLT**

Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you. Such sins have no place among God’s people. **4** Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes—these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God. **5** You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. :**6** Don’t be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey him. **7** Don’t participate in the things these people do.

## Attitude Challenge – Can You Separate Identity from Choices?

### Galatians 5:19-21 NLT

When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, **20** idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, **21** envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

## Attitude Challenge – Can You Separate Identity from Choices?

### 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, **10** nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. **11** And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

**“A Christian living a sinful life is a terrible and sad weapon in the hands of Satan. Conversely, a Christian living righteously is an awesome and wonderful weapon in the hand of God.”**

*- Jack Hibbs*

## Verse 1

**Therefore**, since Christ suffered **for us** in the flesh,  
**ARM** yourselves also with **the same mind**, (attitude)

### “the same mind”

**mind //** **ennoia**; the same thinking, same thoughtfulness, same moral conviction or understanding (of sin)

To abhor, hate, refuse, reject sin. is origin, manifestation, effects and results.

God Hates Sin

And He demands that His children think the same way He does.

### Question:

**Did Jesus suffer against evil, wickedness – sin?**

**Did Jesus die at the hands of those evils – yes?**

**The fact is that sin was the spiritual cancer that put Jesus on the Cross**

**We ought to then hate the sin that skulks and lurks around us, that presses in against your life!**

## **Jesus Christ is our Prototype, Our Hero**

**- who has shown us what the “Christ-like-life” in this world is to be like**

### **Philippians 2:5**

**Let this MIND be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,**

**(think on this) 6** who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, **7 (think on this)** but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. **8 (think on this)** And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. **9 (think on this)** Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, **10 (think on this)** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, **11 (think on this)** and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. **(think on this)**

### **1 Corinthians 2:13-16**

These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. **14** But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. **15** But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. **16** For *“who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?”* But we have **the mind of Christ.**

**Available, Here, Now is The Knowing.**

### **1 Corinthians 2:9-12**

But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” **10** But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. **11** For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. **12** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

**Jesus had “armed” his mind for the suffering  
that was ahead of him.**

**But how did Jesus do that? // How are we to do it as well?**

## **Why should we re-think our attitude toward suffering?**

- (1) Suffering works like a tool. (2) Suffering acts like an astringent.  
(3) Suffering prepares the soul. (4) Suffering matures our spirit.

(1) Your hardship have been divinely allowed. (2) Your pain will not be without a beautiful ending. (3) Your abuse will not go unredeemed. (4) The glory that awaits you cannot be compared.

### **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

## **But this New Creation is alien to this Old World**

Like so many things in life, we have the wrong information and or insufficient knowledge about what's really happening.

**When this happens, our emotional side, our carnal man swings into action with thoughts and words unbecoming a child of God.**

If you were to conduct a New Testament Survey of 1 Peter; you'd have to conclude that there are two (2) key themes to Peter's messaging - #1 is Hope. The other is #2 Suffering.

**"To have a hope without suffering is to be delusional.  
To have suffering without hope is to be suicidal."**

*- Jack Hibbs*

### **Suffering The Will Of God Is To Have The Right Attitude About Sin**

1b.) Is to celebrate it's defeat

vs. 1b

**1b** for he who **has suffered** in the flesh **has ceased** from sin,

This is awesome and deep. So please, let's lay hold of this!

**As Followers of Jesus, Our Suffering is Ordered by the LORD.**

In The Context of 1 Peter 4 – This suffering acts as a reminder, a preventive measure against being taken captive by our lusts.

Suffering in the flesh (against sin and sins effect) is not a **random** thing.  
Suffering in the flesh (against sin and sins effect) is not a **wasted** thing.

**Jack 1:1**

He who has suffered from the pain of being electrocuted  
has ceased from ever wanting to play with electricity.

## **To Hate The Sin That Costs Jesus His Life.**

**Satan will attack us from the outside,  
The problem is, we have a resident danger on our inside.**  
Like a snake charmer, Satan plays his music which appeals to our fallen nature  
on the inside (jar). If he's allowed to keep playing, we will rise to.

**When I say "Suffer or Suffering" I am talking about the going through with  
it all. When Jesus said "Come and follow Me" He meant it and nothing  
less. There are no lay-overs with God. Once He enters into your life, He's  
in and He is in it for the full treatment.**

## **To Hate The Sin That Costs Jesus His Life.**

The CROSS of Christ, The CHRIST of God, The CALL  
from Jesus

Dear Church,  
May the LORD bless you and keep you;  
May the LORD make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you;  
May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
- Numbers 6:24-26

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*End of Study*

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