

"Some Truths About Suffering" 1 Peter 4:12-19

The Bible is full of true accounts of miracles, victories, blessings, and great answers to the prayers of GOD's People. But also, in Scripture we see the adversity, pressure, tribulation, disappointment, persecution, and loss that every Servant of GOD experienced ... as they walked with HIM. As Peter wrote this, the Church in the Roman Empire was about to undergo over _____ of intense persecution.

"Beloved, do not be surprised, at the fiery trial when it comes upon you."

1. Sometimes life just doesn't _____. We try to seek GOD and obey HIM, and _____ and difficulty come at us from every angle.
2. Don't be alarmed, frightened, or _____ when adversity comes your way.
3. JESUS said, "In this World _____ Tribulation. But take heart, I have overcome The World." John 16:33

"to TEST you, as though something strange were happening to you. V.12

4. GOD allows tribulation and hardship to:
 - get our _____ - purify us - build _____ in us,
 - make us _____ CHRIST. - prepare us for _____
 - teach us to be _____

"But rejoice insofar as you share CHRIST's sufferings, that you may rejoice and be glad when HIS Glory is revealed." V.13

5. There is nothing more _____, than suffering and hardship, because it feels like no one _____ what you are going through. Phil. 3:8, 10
6. When adversity strikes, immediately _____ GOD. Ps. 40:1-3
7. Adversity is a bridge leading to a deeper _____ with GOD
8. Being able to rejoice in the midst of suffering, _____ on the inside, and helps us _____ GOD's perspective on our situation.
9. We always learn far more in our _____ experiences than on our mountaintops.

"If you are insulted for the Name of CHRIST, you are blessed, because the Spirit of Glory and of GOD rests upon you." V.14

"But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or a thief, or an evil-doer, or as a meddler" V.15

10. Minimize the suffering that comes because of _____.
Repent quickly and obey GOD. This kind of suffering is foolish and unnecessary.

"Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify GOD in that NAME." V.16

11. As a Child of The Sovereign GOD, you are never a _____ of your circumstances.
12. Your Heavenly Father has determined to use _____ that happens to you, for your _____ and for HIS _____. Romans 8:28
13. Suffering and loss produce great _____. Brokenness is a one of GOD's Requirements for maximum _____.

"For it is time for judgment to begin at the Household of GOD; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the Gospel of GOD? V.17

14. This is not condemnation for GOD's People, but the _____ and pruning that we all need.

"And if the Righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" V.18

15. Many of us came to CHRIST after years of _____ GOD's Mercy and living in active rebellion. This is a stern _____ for those who may never repent.

"Therefore let those who suffer according to GOD's Will entrust their souls to a Faithful Creator, while doing good." V.19

16. The Dark Moments of your life will _____ as it is necessary for GOD to accomplish His Purposes in you and through you.
17. Trust, without giving HIM a _____ to remove it.
18. Keep doing the _____ ... regardless.
19. GOD will somehow use our suffering for HIS Glory and to help multitudes of people we _____ now.

It is precious and freeing when we admit: **"I need GOD."**

