

I Peter

(11) The Suffering of Christ

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,... 1 Peter 3:15-16, NIV

Do not repay evil with evil..., but with blessing...IPet.3:8-17

What is the truth taught in 3:13? see Jn.7:12

It is the ‘golden rule’. Be eager to do what is right, what is good. It’s not offensive!

What is the exhortation from Is.8:11-13? 3:14 see Mt.10:24-31

Even if you suffer for good, don’t fear men, fear the Lord! Then, Is.8:14!!

Why say ‘if you suffer for what is right, you are blessed’? 5:10; Lu.6:22-23; Phil.1:29-30

It is granted to us to believe in Him and also suffer for His sake. Be glad, leap for joy!

What does it mean to ‘sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts’? see Rom.12:1-2

Sanctify means to set apart (from everything else). This is making Christ Lord of your life.

When you have done this, what are you *prepared* to do? 3:15b

Prepared to give a defense to everyone who asks for the reason for your hope. Real witness

What is the very important *how* statement about this witness? 3:15c; IITim.2:24-26

Give your defense with gentleness and respect. Not challenging, not angrily, submission...

And then, what command is given? 3:16a and why? 3:16b; Acts 24:16

Keep a clear conscience. So that your accusers may be ashamed of their slander.

What is the comforting part of 3:17? see 4:19

Suffering is not ‘required’ but if it comes it’s by God’s will. For good or bad (discipline).

The Suffering of Christ...3:18

What does Peter restate in 3:18? IICor.5:21; Jn.10:15-18; Heb.4:14-16, 10:11-14

This is the Gospel! Christ died for sins once for all, Righteous for the unrighteous.

What does Peter say to those who claim Jesus did not really die on the cross? 3:18; Jn.19:31-37

By the authority of the Word of God, “He was put to death in the body”. Physical death.

In parallel w/physical death, what else occurs on the cross? Mt.27:45-46; IICor.5:21; ICor.15:3-4

Spiritual separation of Christ from the Father. He tasted death, God’s furious wrath...

But while ‘put to death in the body’ He was also...? 3:18

Made alive by/in the spirit. May be Holy Spirit..., restored fellowship w/Father!

What is one message to us in the context of IPeter?

Christ suffered, totally, but glory awaited. Glory awaits us after suffering as well.