

*First Peter Series - A Living Hope*

**“Surprised By Joy”**

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1 Peter 4:12-19

2.13.11

**Introduction:**

- A. I'm using the title today to convey the counter-intuitive relationship between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. In this final section, Peter addressed a special kind of persecution called the “\_\_\_\_\_” trial or “\_\_\_\_\_” trial.
- C. Peter likely wrote this letter just before \_\_\_\_\_ persecution began.

**I. The \_\_\_\_\_ . (4:12)**

- A. Peter exhorts his readers to avoid being \_\_\_\_\_ by the painful trial.
- B. Christians, today, are the most \_\_\_\_\_ group in the world.

**II. The \_\_\_\_\_ . (4:13)**

- A. Peter's readers are told to \_\_\_\_\_ in their sufferings.
- B. Persecution gives an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus' sufferings.

**III. The \_\_\_\_\_ . (4:14-16)**

- A. The important condition is \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Suffering for the name of Christ will be \_\_\_\_\_, but suffering for sinful behavior is deserving of \_\_\_\_\_.

**IV. The \_\_\_\_\_ . (4:17-19)**

- A. The consideration is that we will someday have to \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
- B. It is much better for believers to endure suffering \_\_\_\_\_, than to later bear \_\_\_\_\_ torment.

**Conclusion: Lessons on Suffering (Heb. 12:2-3)**

- A. Christians ought not be \_\_\_\_\_ if they suffer because of their faith.
- B. Christians ought to \_\_\_\_\_ the opportunity to share in the sufferings of Christ.
- C. Suffering for Jesus should be understood as a \_\_\_\_\_ to prepare us for God's final judgment.
- D. Christians ought to be able to transcend their present pain by reflecting on the transcendent glory that awaits God's people.
- E. When facing suffering in the name of Christ, Christians must continue to do good \_\_\_\_\_ as an expression of our trust.

Answer Key: Intro.A. suffering, joy. B. painful, fiery. C. Nero's. I. Command. I.A. surprised. I.B. persecuted. II. Counterproposal. II.A. rejoice. II.B. participate, Christ. III. Condition. III.A. faithfulness. III.B. rewarded, punishment. IV. Consideration. IV.A. answer. IV.B. now, eternal. Concl.A. surprised. B. welcome. C. test. E. works.