

**THE INNER STRUGGLE**  
**1 PETER 4:1-6 / 10-30-19 / WED**

**I. WHAT PART DO WE PLAY IN OUR INNER STRUGGLE WITH SIN?**

- A. First, Peter says we must have the same attitude or mindset that Jesus had toward suffering for our faith—4:1a.

**1 Peter 4:1a**

**Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude...**

1. Remember that Jesus tells us that suffering for our faith isn't an option, it's inevitable—John 16:33.
2. Remember also that Peter is writing to Christians who were suffering for their faith--1:6.
3. How might we suffer for our faith today?
  - a. In many parts of our world Christians are persecuted.
  - b. Other ways we might suffer for our faith includes ridicule, suppression and prejudice.

- B. Second, Peter says there is a benefit, believe it or not, from suffering for our faith—4:1b.

**1 Peter 4:1b**

**.....whoever suffers in the body is done with sin.**

1. Peter isn't talking about sinless perfection.
2. Instead, Peter is saying that if we withstand suffering for our faith it strengthens our faith so we can also withstand temptation to sin.—4:2-3 and 1 Cor. 10:13.

**II. SECOND, WHAT SHOULD WE EXPECT WHEN WE START SAYING NO TO SIN?**

- A. Peter says you can expect to be ridiculed by other people who are unwilling to stand against sin like you do—4:4.
- B. Peter says they who abuse you should be pitied because they will face God's judgment—4:5.

**III. THIRD, THERE ARE ADVANTAGES TO SUFFERING FOR OUR FAITH.**

- A. In addition to developing Christ's attitude toward suffering, being better equipped to handle sin, and avoiding God's judgement others will face, Peter mentions one more advantage.

B. Peter says we will avoid the second death—4:6.

**1 Peter 4:6a**

**For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead...**

1. This verse, like 3:19 does not teach that unbelievers get a second chance to be saved after death—3:19-20.
2. **“Those who are now dead” (6)** probably refers to Christians who have already died.
3. What is the **“second death”**?
  - a. The **“first death”** is physical death which is the result of original sin and we all, even Christians, experience this first death—Roman 6:23.
  - b. Although everyone, including Christians, experience the first death or physical death, Christians will not experience the **“second death”** or spiritual death---**1 Peter 4:6b**; Rev. 2:11, 20:6, 20:14 and 21:8.

**1 Peter 4:6b**

**...so that they might be judged according to human standards in regard to the body (all experience first death), but live according to God in regard to the spirit (not experience second death)**