

**IT ONLY HURTS FOR AWHILE**  
**1 PETER 5:10-11 / 12-18-19 / WED**

- I. FIRST, SUFFERING IS EXPECTED—V. 10 “After you have suffered”**
- A. Peter doesn’t hide the fact that suffering for Christians is inevitable.
  - B. Why? Because their culture was becoming hostile toward Christians.
    - 1. Peter has said suffering is inevitable before—4:12.
    - 2. Jesus also told us suffering is inevitable—John 15:19-20 and 16:33.
  - C. Since suffering is inevitable, we need to be sure and have the right mindset about it. For example....
    - 1. Realize God isn’t punishing you even though there are consequences for our actions.
    - 2. Realize too God isn’t mad at you.
- II. SECOND, SUFFERING IS LIMITED—V. 10 “After you have suffered for a little while”.**
- A. Peter is reminding them, and us, that suffering has its limits.
    - 1. This means it’s not never ending.
    - 2. It’s a further reminder that it’s not constant either.
  - B. God promises that someday all suffering will be over—Rev. 21:4.
  - C. Paul also reminds us that suffering has limits compared to our future—2 Cor. 4:17.
- III. THIRD, GOD’S GRACE IS AVAILABLE—V. 10— “The God of all grace”.**
- A. We remember that grace is God’s undeserved favor shown to us.
    - 1. It’s God’s grace that saves us.
    - 2. It’s also God’s grace that sustains us.
  - B. Peter reminds them that the most important questions to ask ourselves while suffering aren’t “Why is this happening?” or “How can I survive?”.
  - C. The ultimate question is “Who can I count on?”.
    - 1. Who is in control? Certainly not us.

2. God' didn't answer Job's "why" question about suffering. Instead God reminded Job Who He is and what He has done.
- D. Paul received the same answer when he prayed for God to take away a thorn in the flesh—2 Cor. 12:9.

**IV. FOURTH, GOD HAS A PLAN FOR OUR SUFFERING—V.10 "Who called you to His eternal glory in Christ."**

- A. God has "called" us to our suffering.
  1. He hasn't caused it.
  2. Instead, He uses it for His eternal purpose and glory.
- B. What is God's eternal purpose and how does our suffering fit into God's eternal glory?
  1. Suffering itself doesn't bring God's glory.
  2. Our response, however, to suffering can bring Him glory.
- C. As strange as it sounds, our suffering can bring God glory even if we don't understand how.

**V. FIFTH, SUFFERING IS SURVIVABLE—V.10 "Will Himself restore you, and make you strong, firm and steadfast".**

- A. Peter says that God promises to restore us or help us survive our suffering.
- B. How?
  1. By making us "strong" inwardly as well as outwardly—Phil. 4:13.
  2. By making us "firm" in our faith and determination.
  3. By making us "steadfast" or consistent in our stand for God.

**VI. SIXTH, SUFFERING IS UNDER GOD'S CONTROL—11 "To Him be the power for ever and ever. Amen."**

- A. God has the power to protect us in our suffering—Eph. 3:20.
- B. We can express our confidence in God's power when we declare "Amen" by our actions and also by our words. (Amen means "So be it!" or "That's true").