



The Epistle of 1 Peter (Lesson # 30)

The Facts of Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-14

Emphasis in 1 Peter
The Christian's view
of 'now' in light of 'eternity'

Content Outline

(Chester McCalley book "Comfort in Suffering")

Available here: <http://www.wordoftruthkc.org/>

Salvation 1:1—2:10 (God's gift)

Submission 2:11—3:12 (Our duty)

Suffering 3:13—5:14 (Our discipline)

#22-23 **Conduct in Suffering** 3:13-17

#24-25 **Consequences of Christ's Suffering** 3:18-22

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35 **Conclusion of 1 Peter** 5:10-14

Sources, NASU 1995, HAIronside, CMcCalley, H&AMolloy, RMerryman, CMisler, JVMcGee, VPeterman, TAsparks, Misc Commentaries & HHBC web site

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The Facts of Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-14

*12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

* This Scripture is from King James Version

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The Facts of Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-14

*12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.

14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you, **on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

* Scripture is from NASU 1995 unless noted otherwise
** King James Version has this last part

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The Facts of Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-14

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

Beloved, αγαπητοί, adjective vocative masculine plural no degree from αγαπητός Friberg,

(1) beloved, dear, very much loved (AC 15.25; possibly 1T 6.2);

(2) of one not only greatly loved but also unique, the only one of a class only beloved, one dear (MT 3.17);

(3) worthy of love (probably 1T 6.2)

do not be surprised

μη ξενίζεσθε verb imperative present passive 2nd person plural from ξενίζω

Friberg, passive be struck with, be amazed, wonder, think strange
McCalley, imperative(command), passive; Don't let this happen to you

Literally: "Beloved, don't be surprised"

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The Facts of Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-14

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

at the

Implied by the dative case use in the direct object, burning.

fiery ordeal (Note: ordeal is not in original, it is supplied by translators)

πυρώσει noun dative feminine singular from πύρωσις

Friberg,

literally, as an action burning (RV 18.9);

figuratively, of suffering sent by God for the spiritual refinement of believers fiery test, painful suffering (1P 4.12)

Question: Is this real burning by men who judged them worthy of death, or is this figurative of painful suffering that is

by man to discredit, or abuse them with false accusations,

or by God to refine them?

Answer: I believe Peter may be referring to the real burning under the rule of Nero in Rome. He burned as lights for his home parties, anyone who would not worship him as God

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The Facts of Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-14

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

among you,

τη εν υμιν

τη definite article dative feminine singular from ο the

This article refers back to burning, so could be rendered that is

εν preposition from εν (here used with dative object)

can mean "to" if pure dative with a direct object

can mean "by" or "by means of" if instrumental dative

can mean "in, at, among" if locative dative,

I take it here to be a "locative" dative, among

υμιν pronoun personal dative plural from συ you plural

Literally: "Beloved, don't be surprised at the burning that is among you all"

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¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

which comes upon you

γινομένη, participle present middle or passive deponent dative fem sing from γίνομαι to come into being, to happen, to become

Present tense

indicates this was going on continually in the present time

Middle or Passive (same form in original)

Indicates this was coming to be real for them while being done to them

This one word follows the phrase “for your testing” in the original,

So an original word order literal translation is “for your testing this is happening”

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The Facts of Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-14

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

for your testing πρὸς πειρασμὸν ὑμῶν

πρὸς preposition used here to show or introduce a purpose;

As in Eph 4:12 for (πρὸς for the purpose of) the equipping of the saints for (εἰς toward) the work of service, to (εἰς toward) the building up of the body of Christ;

πειρασμὸν noun accusative masculine singular from πειρασμός testing

ὑμῶν pronoun personal dative plural from σύ you plural

In James the two Greek works of testing are in contrast... This word πειρασμός is never done by God, always is done by man! James 1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. (each is πειράζω the verb form of πειρασμός)

1 Peter shows this same contrast the word δοκιμάζω is used in 1 Pt 1:7, “so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested (δοκιμάζω) by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;” (here proof of your faith is shown to be God’s testing)

Πειρασμός in 4:12 is testing that distorts reality and may cause one to sin
Δοκιμάζω in 1:7 is testing to purify what is believed and reveal what is reality

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¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

as though some strange thing were happening to you

ὡς ξένου ὑμῶν συμβαίνοντος

ὡς adverb as, like, even as, translated here as though

ξένου adjective genitive neuter sing from ξένος

Gingrich, strange, foreign Ac 17:18; Hb 13:9; surprising, unheard of 1 Pt 4:12

ὑμῶν pronoun personal dative plural from σύ to you

συμβαίνοντος participle pres active genitive neuter sing from συμβαίω

Gingrich, meet, happen, come about

Mk 10:32; Ac 20:19; 21:35; 1 Cor 10:11; 1 Pt 4:12; 2 Pt 2:22.

Present tense, is happening

Literally this is “as though an unheard of thing to you is happening”

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¹³ but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.

but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ,

ἀλλὰ strong conjunction of contrast, instead

καθὼ adverb from καθό Friberg, of degree to the degree that, insofar as

κοινωνεῖτε verb ind pres act 2nd pers pl from κοινωνέω Friberg, denoting common participation

you plural share, have in common, take part with someone (HE 2.14);

Present tense, “you all are sharing”

τοῖς παθήμασιν def article+noun dative neuter pl from ὁ πάθημα the sufferings

τοῦ χριστοῦ def article + noun gen masc sing from ὁ Χριστός of the Christ

As man and God before crucifixion he suffered from men; ridicule, false accusations, rejection of who he was, and the testing by Satan to sin against Himself. This is our shared suffering. We too are ridiculed, slandered, rejected, and tested to sin by men, ourselves, and Satan.

As man and God, on the cross He died, to suffer the penalty of our sins. This we do not share with Him, He suffered for us alone. This was His gift for us.

Literally: “Instead, to the degree that you all are sharing the sufferings of the Christ”

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¹³ but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.

keep on rejoicing

χαίρετε, verb imperative pres act 2nd pers pl from χαίρω rejoice, be glad, be delighted

example (JN 3.29) "He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. So this joy of mine has been made full."

Imperative mood, this is a command,

Present tense, to be done continuously

Question: Why use a command here?

Answer: God wanted us to know His view.

1) He wants His life, all of His goodness, His glory, to be seen on earth, thru us.

2) He wants us to be delighted at His revelation, as we receive praise from Him for our delight in His life being seen and rejected by men while we are here on the earth.

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¹³ but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.

so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.

ἵνα καὶ ἐν τῇ ἀποκαλύψει τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ χαρῆτε ἀγαλλιώμενοι.

ἵνα conjunction; used to show a purpose or goal that, in order that, so that;

καὶ conjunction here as an adjunctive to add force to the purpose, also, even

ἐν preposition here with locative dative object, the time of His revelation, at

τῇ ἀποκαλύψει article+noun dative fem sing from ἀποκάλυψις the revelation

τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ art+noun+pronoun gen fem sing, ὁ δόξα αὐτός of the glory of Him

χαρῆτε verb subj aor pass dep 2nd pers pl from χαίρω you may be praised

Subjunctive mood of potential, Aorist text of fact, Passive voice being acted on

ἀγαλλιώμενοι participle pres mid or pass dep nom masc pl from ἀγαλλιάω

expressing supreme joy, be glad, rejoice exceedingly, being very happy

Literally: “so that also at the revelation of the glory of Him you may be praised being very happy”

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The Facts of Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-14

14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed

Εἰ ὀνειδίζεσθε ἐν ὀνόματι χριστοῦ, μακάριοι

εἰ condition particle with indicative mood, meaning it is assumed true, *if, since*;
 ὀνειδίζεσθε verb indic pres pas 2nd pers pl from ὀνειδίζω **you are being reviled**
 ἐν prep with locative dative object, *in, at, among, for, concerning*
 ὀνόματι noun dative neuter sing from ὄνομα **name, reputation, revealed qualities**
 (with no article > *revealed essence, nature, or character qualities*)
 χριστοῦ, noun gen masc sing from Χριστός **of Christ, messiah, promised one...**
 μακάριοι adjective nom masc pl from μακάριος **blessed, divinely favored**

Literal paraphrase: **"if (and I assume it is true) you are being reviled for revealing the qualities of Christ, you are blessed,"**



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14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you

ὅτι τὸ τῆς δόξης καὶ τὸ τοῦ θεοῦ πνεῦμα ἐφ' ὑμᾶς ἀναπαύεται

ὅτι conj **because, since, (for reason of fact)**, Jn 20.29 ... "Because (ὅτι) you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."
 τὸ article nom neuter sing from ὁ **the**
 τῆς δόξης art+noun gen fem sing, ὁ δόξα **of the glory radiance brightness splendor**
 καὶ conj of addition or ascendancy, **and, even**
 τὸ article nom neuter sing from ὁ **the**
 τοῦ θεοῦ noun gen masc sing from ὁ θεός **of the God**
 πνεῦμα noun nom neut sing from πνεῦμα **Spirit, breath, wind**
 ἐφ' preposition from ἐπί basic meaning **on, upon**
 ὑμᾶς pronoun personal acc pl from σύ **all you or you all if you prefer**
 ἀναπαύεται verb ind pres mid 3rd pers sing from ἀναπαύω **is resting,**
 Friberg, figuratively, with ἐπί of the Spirit's resting place **remain on, continue to be with**

Literally: **"because the one of the glory, even the one of the God, Spirit, upon you all is resting"**



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14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ****on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.**

on their part he is evil spoken of, κατὰ μὲν αὐτοὺς βλασφημεῖται, κατὰ μὲν αὐτοὺς prep+particle+pronoun **on their part**
 This is a Greek used combination of preposition, particle, and pronoun that is used to present comparison phrases. The particles and pronouns change to show the kind of comparison and the compared groups...

βλασφημεῖται, verb ind pres pass 3rd pers sing from βλασφημέω
He is being blasphemed, slandered, reviled, defamed

but on your part he is glorified, κατὰ δὲ ὑμᾶς δοξάζεται.

κατὰ δὲ ὑμᾶς prep+particle+pronoun **but on your part**
 δοξάζεται, verb ind pres pass 3rd pers sing from δοξάζω
He is being glorified, praised, honored, magnified

Literally: **"on their part He is being slandered, but on your part He is being glorified"**



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*12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; ¹³ but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ****on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.**

My word order literal & paraphrased translation

¹² Beloved, don't be surprised at the burning that is among you all, for your testing this is happening, as though an unheard of thing to you is happening; ¹³ Instead, to the degree that you all are sharing the sufferings of the Christ, be delighted; so that also at the revelation of the glory of Him you may be praised, being very happy. ¹⁴ If (and I assume it is true) you are being reviled for revealing the qualities of Christ, you are blessed, because the One of the glory, even the One of the God, (the) Spirit, upon you all, is resting, on their part He is being slandered, but on your part He is being glorified.



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An illustration in *Acts 5:14 ¹⁴ "And all the more believers in the Lord, multitudes of men and women, were constantly added to *their number*, ...¹⁷ But the high priest rose up, along with all his associates (that is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with jealousy.¹⁸ They laid hands on the apostles and put them in a public jail... skipped a lot here... ²⁷ When they had brought them, they stood them before the Council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and yet, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and intend to bring this man's blood upon us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, **"We must obey God rather than men."** ³⁰ **"The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross. ³¹ "He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. ³² "And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."³³ But when they heard this, they were cut to the quick and intended to kill them... skipping to ⁴⁰... and after calling the apostles in, **they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them. ⁴¹ So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name. ⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.****



The Facts of Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-14

A few facts in these three verses that are for us as believers in Christ

- The term "Beloved" carries a strong message of God's view of each of us, that we are uniquely loved by Him, in His own personal, intimate way.
- God commands us to think as He thinks concerning unjust judgement of us
- God tells us that He suffers when we suffer under unjust judgement of us
- God commands us to keep rejoicing when His new nature is seen in us
- God promises us that as we rejoice now when suffering with Him, we will joyfully, be given more of His praise when He reveals His glory to everyone
- God tells us that He the Holy Spirit is at rest upon us, when we keep rejoicing, even when misjudged because His new nature is seen in us.
- God tells us that anyone's incorrect view of His work in us insults Him, and that our correct view of His work in us honors Him