

**Series "Living God Gives A Living Hope"**  
**"For The Will Of God"**  
**1 Peter 4:1-6**  
**Study-16**

The term "**Euphemism**" is "substituting a pleasant word for something not so pleasant."

"**Sin**" with other softer expressions like "Mistakes" or "Struggles" or "Accidents" or "Errors in Judgment."

**1 Peter 2:11-12**

**1 Peter 3:13-5:14 – God's Grace and Suffering.**

**Thought Of The Passage:** "The Example Of Jesus Christ In His Suffering Should Inspire, Strengthen And Purify The Believer's Life."

- 1. Verses 1-2 – Suffering Expected**
- 2. Verses 3-6 – Suffering Explained**

**1. Verses 1-2 – Suffering Expected:**

1 Peter 4:1 – "Therefore, since" – (KJV "For as much as"); Context – Peter is drawing application from what he has been saying about Christ's sufferings; Jesus Christ's victory over evil through His sufferings, 1 Peter 3:22.

1 Peter 4:1-6 – Now we as believers share in the victory of Jesus Christ!

"since Christ has suffered in the flesh," – referring to 1 Peter 3:18-22.

**What should be the Christian's response to Jesus dying for me?**

"arm yourselves" – verb used only here in the NT; it means "equip yourselves, to equip or arm with appropriate tool or weapon;" Greek tense to do so decisively, with a sense of urgency; A Greek warrior putting on his heaviest armor for maximum protection. We Are To Arm Ourselves With The Same Mind! 1 Peter 2:21

The term "purpose" – Attitude; literally, "what is in the mind, thought." We are to "adopt the same attitude of Jesus Christ for suffering, mind-set, or disposition," John 4:34; John 15:20-21.

"because he (Believer) who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin," – Note that our suffering for Christ advances our progress in holiness.

"has ceased from sin," – a life that has been dominated by sin has been terminated.

Decisively, with a sense of urgency we must turn from our sin. (Repent)

(Believe) We must turn to Jesus. We must receive Him as our Savior.

1 Peter 4:2 – "so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh" – "As a result;"  
This is how you should live! **There are only 2 options available:**

**Option #1 – Pleasing Yourself:** (Negative) "no longer for the lusts of men," – "the rest of your time in the flesh to the lusts of men."

"the rest of the time in the flesh" – "life is short; time is precious."

**Option #2 – Pleasing The Lord:** (Positive) "but for the will of God."

"the will of God." – Matthew 26:39 – Jesus placed His life in the Father's hands.

"arm yourselves" – with the mind (Attitude) of Christ; imparts power to break with the former and to carry out the latter.

## **2. Verses 3-6 – Suffering Explained:**

1 Peter 4:3

Verse 3 – Man's Depravity: "For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles," – "you have given enough time in the past for doing what the nations, the pagans do," Romans 6:6.

"having pursued a course of" – **Peter identifies 6 sins of the past; the unsaved lifestyle:**

- 1) "sensuality,"** – "debauchery, unbridled lustful excesses, no self-restraint, conduct that shocks public decency." Same word used in 2 Peter 2:7, behavior of Sodom! Shameless Conduct!
- 2) "lusts,"** – "illicit desires, evil desires, a longing for that which is forbidden, depraved cravings."
- 3) "drunkenness,"** – used only here in the NT; "overflowing of wine;" speaks of habitual drunkenness and depicts the person so described as soaked to overflowing with wine; Including drugs.

- 4) **"carousing,"** – orgies, revelries; "to lie down;" speaks of festal gatherings or merrymakings, rioting, such as those in honor of a god, like Bacchus.
- 5) **"drinking parties"** – carousing; "to drink;" speaks of a drinking carousal, banqueting, drinking bouts."
- 6) **"and abominable idolatries."** – detestable; used to describe idolatry; literally, "not allowed, or unlawful; so bad, society has to outlaw it;" it speaks of that which is exceedingly evil, even by worldly standards, 1 Corinthians 5:1.

Matthew 7:21-23

Verse 4 – Man's Distortions: 1 Peter 4:4 – "In all this," – Peter is referring to "sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties, abominable idolatries."

The Reaction From The World: "they are surprised" – "astonished or shocked, taking offense;" – "that you do not run with them."

"They think it strange, and resentful that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you!"

"run with them" – "Plunge;" "to run together, run in a pack" or "rushing to associate with the wicked behavior of those pagan neighbors."

"into the same excesses" – "an overflowing, to pour out, pleasure seekers" – "of dissipation," – "the character of an abandoned man, a Prodigal wasteful," Luke 15:13.

Romans 1:26-32

"and they malign you;" – This speaks of the bitter resentment – "they heap abuse on you!" It can mean slandering, abusing, or blaspheming. It could be either cursing the believer or cursing God! (Both) "They vilify you!"

Verse 5 – Man's Doom: 1 Peter 4:5 – "but they will give account to Him" – Believers abused brings to Peter's mind their judgment.

**All persons will meet God one day. In the person of Jesus Christ!**

**This judgment should be an encouragement to believers. We will meet Him as our Saviour! Those who reject Him will meet Him as Judge!**

“give account to Him” – this is Jesus because that is the context of who Peter has been speaking about, John 5:22; Acts 17:31; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 Peter 2:23.

“give account to Him” – Revelation 20:11-12.

“who is ready to judge the living and the dead.” – Means that God could and may judge at any moment.

“the living” – Those that are alive now; those that will be alive when Jesus returns.

“and the dead.” – Those that have already died, Revelation 20:13.

Verse 6 – Man’s Hope Of Eternal Life: 1 Peter 4:6 – “For” – Peter connects what he has just said.

“the gospel” – “the good news, to announce a joyful message.”

“has for this purpose” – “to this end, for this purpose, reason” – “been preached” – The Gospel will be the basis for God’s Judgment!

“even to those who are dead,” – Physically Dead; 1 Peter 4:5 – “and the dead.” – “those that are now dead, before 1 Peter;” gospel goes beyond the grave!

“that though they are judged in the flesh as men,” – They had physically died, Hebrews 9:27; John 11:25-26; 2 Corinthians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

### **Application:**

1. Keep The Mindset Of Jesus For Suffering. We Should Expect To Suffer. Need To Continue To Live For The Lord: Let our integrity speak for itself.
2. Expect To Be Misunderstood: People will make accusations against us. We should let our lives speak for themselves.
3. Don’t Be Surprised About Man’s Depravity And Distorted View.
4. Fix Your Eyes On Jesus: Keep being different, be genuine; the world is not our home, we are just passing through.