

# SOJOURNERS AND EXILES

## A JOURNEY THROUGH FIRST PETER



### What Do the Godly Do in Times of Suffering?

April 12, 2026

David Hinkle

#### 1 PETER 4:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, <sup>2</sup> so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. <sup>3</sup> For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. <sup>4</sup> With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; <sup>5</sup> but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. <sup>6</sup> For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

<sup>7</sup> The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. <sup>8</sup> Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup> Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup> As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: <sup>11</sup> whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

#### SUMMARY

God expects Christians to respond to life's hardships in the same way Christ did. How we handle these difficulties matters. A Christlike attitude stands in stark contrast to the world. The more we look like Him in the midst of hardship, the more we are set apart from those around us. And that is the point! Our suffering is a platform to witness for Christ to a watching and hurting world.

## WHAT DO THE GODLY DO IN TIMES OF SUFFERING?

**We reject sinful escapes.**

**Beware of the BEEPS!**

**B**ehaviors

**E**vents

**E**xperiences

**P**eople

**S**ubstances

**Luke 19:10**

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

**We remember our gospel story.**

**We keep loving others despite our suffering.**

Godly love looks like:

Prayer

Earnest Love

Hospitality

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In your opinion, what best distinguishes Christians from non-Christians?
2. What did Peter say about the person who has suffered? (4:1-2)
3. For what reason was the gospel preached? (4:6)
4. What did Peter instruct his readers to do since the end of all things was near? (4:7)
5. Why is it sometimes difficult to love other believers?
6. What gift has God given you that you could use to serve others?
7. In what simple way this week can you let unbelievers see that you live by a unique set of priorities?
8. What did God have most for you from the message and passage this week?

To listen to this or any other sermon, visit [tomballbible.church/sermons](http://tomballbible.church/sermons).