

May 19, 2024

*The Bridge Bible Fellowship*

Pastor Paul S. Brown

1 Peter 3:13-22

*“Stand Up & Stand Out”*  
“Suffering According to God’s Will – Part 2”

- I. Foundation: God’s Provision of Salvation (1:1-12)
- II. Exhortation: Our Response to So Great a Salvation (1:13-5:14)
  - A. Sanctification (1:13-2:12)
  - B. Submission (2:11-3:12)
  - C. **Suffering (3:13-4:19)**
    - 1. **Fearless (3:13-17)**
  
    - 2. **Focused (3:18-22)**

So what?

## Discussion & Application:

1. Have you ever been mocked or belittled because you took a stand for biblical morality? What specific moral issues are under attack today? Why is it important that true believers not back down from these convictions?
2. Peter tells us not to be fearful when unbelievers try to intimidate us, and he quotes Scripture about it. How does Scripture help when you are tempted to be fearful? What specific Scriptures could you memorize and meditate upon to strengthen you when you are suffering for doing what is right?
3. What is the worst thing that opponents of the gospel could do to you? How does Matthew 10:28 help even in times like that? What happened to Jesus the moment that He died? Where did His spirit go? How does meditating on that strengthen our convictions?
4. Who are the spirits in prison? When did Jesus go make proclamation to them? What was His proclamation? See 2 Peter 2:4-5; Jude 6; and Genesis 6. Why did Peter include this statement in a discussion about suffering for doing what is right? [Note: this is perhaps the most difficult passage in the Bible to interpret so be gracious as you discuss it. The specifics are debatable, but the main point is clear.]
5. Why does Peter include a summary of the account of Noah, the ark, and that only 8 people survived the flood? What principles could Peter's readers take from that story and apply to their situation?
6. 2 Peter 2:5 says Noah wasn't just an ark builder, he was also a preacher of righteousness. Why does Peter emphasize God's patience during those many years?
7. What is the connection between Noah and his family in the ark and baptism? Is Peter saying that baptism is what saves us? What does he mean by baptism? How is it analogous to the ark of Noah?
8. What is the significance of Jesus being at the right hand of God? What other passages speak of Jesus' sovereign rule over all authorities in heaven and on earth? (Start with Eph. 1:18-23) How does knowing that Jesus is sovereign help us suffer for righteousness fearlessly?
9. Read Col. 3:1-4 and Heb. 12:1-3. What are some specific things you can do daily to stay focused on Jesus? What are some promises of Jesus that help you endure suffering in this life? When you gather with other believers, how can you encourage them and stimulate them to Stand Up & Stand Out for Jesus no matter what it may cost them?
10. **Memorize 1 Peter 3:18-22.** Meditate on Jesus. Who He is, what He did, does, and will do, and why He did it. Sing songs of praise and thanksgiving that He is Lord of all.