

FIRST PETER

The Christian's Life in Exile —Part 22

4:1-6— “Past, Present, and Future Victory in Christ”—September 6, 2015

“But courage, child: we are all between the paws of the true Aslan.” —C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle

The Christian's Election and Exile—1 Peter 1:1-2

The Christian's Position in the People of God—1 Peter 2:4-10

The Christian's Living Hope—1 Peter 1:3-11

The Christian's Obligations in the People of God—1 Peter 2:11-3:12

The Christian's Life in Relation to God—1 Peter 1:13-2:3

The Christian's Sufferings—1 Peter 3:13-3:22

The Christian's Conduct—1 Peter 4:1-11

The Christian's Conduct Among Unbelievers—1 Peter 4:1-6

“¹Since 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, ²so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.”

Reminder: Jesus _____! (1 Peter 2:21-23)

Understanding Present Suffering: 2 Questions

1.

2.

“³For 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.”

A Pagan Context:

“...gentiles...”

Idolatry:

“⁴ With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you;⁵ but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.”

- Idolaters never want to simply be left alone. They want your _____ or your _____. (Romans 1:32)

Two ways Christians were maligned:

⇒ They were considered to be _____ of mankind. (Tacitus, *The Annals*, late 1st C)

⇒ They were considered _____ because they would not worship other gods. (Pliny the Younger, *Letter to Trajan*, Early 2nd C)

“⁶ 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.”

What is Peter doing in this passage?

Peter wants Christians to suffer _____ if and when they face difficulty or persecution in the surrounding culture.

Peter wants Christians to be reminded that they will be _____ when they stand before their Lord and Savior.