

HOPE IN SUFFERING

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Four reasons to have HOPE in a hopeless/messed up world:

I. Because your suffering is _____.

1Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for **a little while** you may have had to **suffer grief** in all kinds of **trials**.

A. Our suffering will come to an _____.

1 Peter 5:10 And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have **suffered a little while**, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

II. Because your faith will be _____.

1Peter 1:7 These have come so that your **faith**-of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire-may be **proved** genuine and may **result in praise, glory and honor** when Jesus Christ is revealed.

A. Suffering is God’s tool to _____ faith!

Heb 11:1 Now **faith** is being sure of what we **hope** for and certain of what we do not see.

1 Cor 13:13 And now these three remain: **faith, hope** and love. But the greatest of these is love.

B. Suffering is God’s pathway to _____!

James 1:12 Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive **the crown of life** that God has promised to those who love him.

II. Because your salvation is _____.

A. Faith and salvation bring inexpressible _____!

1Peter 1:8-9 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you **are receiving** the goal of your faith, **the salvation of your souls**.

II. Because Jesus suffered for _____!

A. Jesus’ death purchased salvation for you. That’s called

“ _____!”

1Peter 1:10-11 Concerning this **salvation**, the **prophets**, who spoke of the **grace** that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, **11** trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

1Peter 1:12 **It was revealed to them** that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

V. Summary:

A. We can have have _____ in a hopeless world:

B. But, HOPE must have the foundation of _____!

Discussion Questions:

1. Peter tells us that our suffering is temporary. Explain why you feel this is true, or describe why this concept is hard for you to understand.
2. Describe a time in your life when you were motivated by the “reward” of something you were really excited about receiving (vacation, present, job, relationship, etc.) Why is heaven such a great motivator? How can it motivate you even more?
3. Do you believe that your salvation is secure and can’t be taken away or lost? Why or why not? Share verses that apply (See John 10:29, Jude 24, Ephesians 4:30, Romans 8:38-39.)
4. GRACE can be defined as, “God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense.” Talk about a time someone gave you “grace” or mercy. How did that make you feel?