

1ST PETER

In this next chapter, Peter speaks more of the suffering Christ followers will endure. Much of this suffering will come not from enemies without but from those within.



CHAPTER 4: 1-6

¹ Therefore, since Christ suffered in His body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. ² As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. ³ For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do -- living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. ⁴ They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you. ⁵ But they will have to give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶ For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit."

Who is our example of suffering?

What does it mean for someone to be done with sin?

Peter says that many, if not all of them had lived some pretty rebellious lifestyles. Why is that to be in the past?

How might some in the world view those who have turned over a new leaf?

Though people may judge us, Peter reminds them of another judgment they need to be more concerned about. What is it?

What does it mean to "live according to God in regard to the spirit" and how is it related to the Gospel?

Points to Ponder

What is debauchery?

What is dissipation?

How does God judge both the living and the dead?

