

SUNDAY MORNING (February 17th) • 1 Peter 4:12-19

Entrusting Our Souls to the Faithful Creator

What is being communicated by Peter's use of the term "Beloved" at the beginning of 4:12?

Why would the Spirit of God encourage Christians not to be "surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon [them]" (4:12)?

In what ways do such trials "test" disciples of Christ?

How can real-life men and women possibly come to "rejoice" in the midst of trials (4:13)?

"Rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed" (4:13). What does this mean?

In your own words, how would you communicate what God is communicating in 4:14?

Why include the prohibitive note of 4:15?

Why is it important that Christians "not be ashamed" in the face of suffering "as" Christians (4:16)?

Practically speaking, what does it mean to "glorify God" in the midst of suffering (4:16)?

How would you encapsulate the points being revealed through Peter in 4:17-19? What does God want us to remember and keep in perspective? And why? What difference will these truths make in everyday life? Finally, what very real dangers are posed if we forget or neglect these truths?