

1 Peter Series

Lesson #104

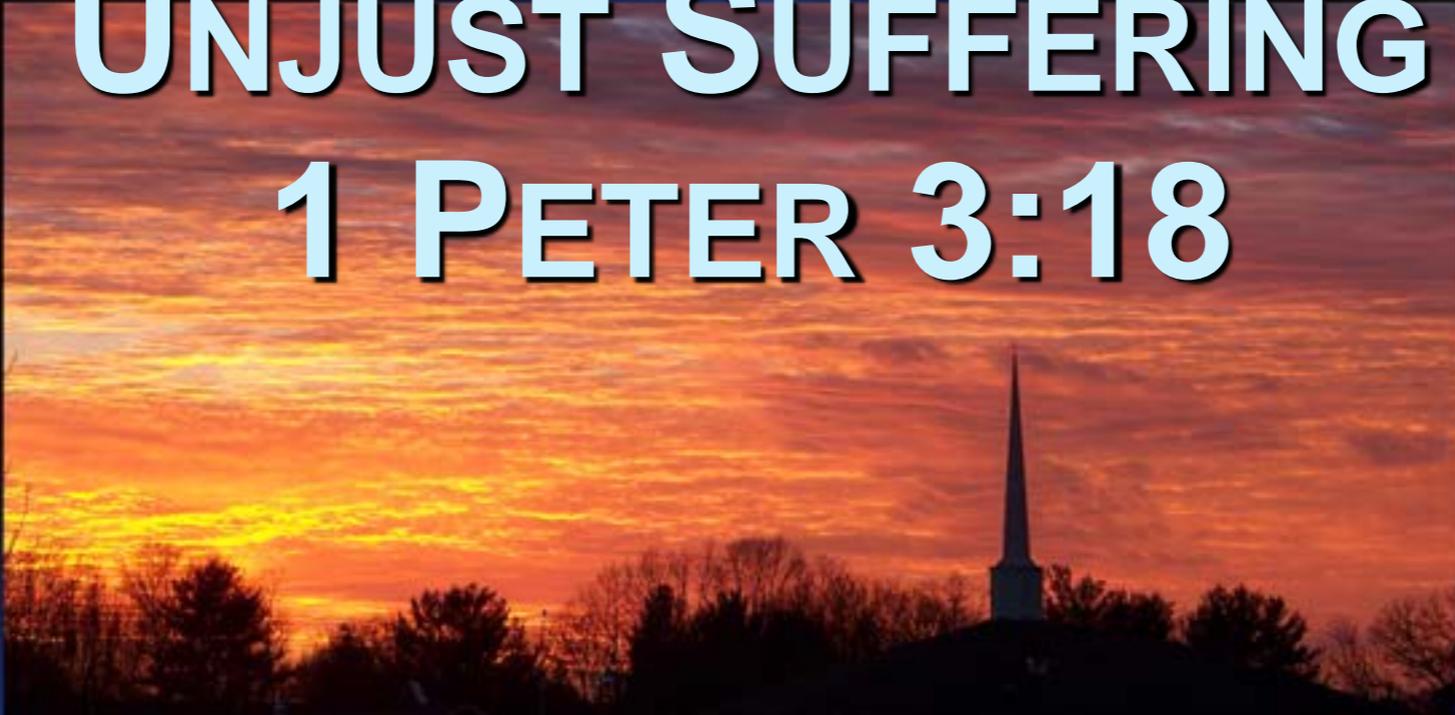
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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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**CONSCIENCE;
CHRIST'S EXAMPLE OF
UNJUST SUFFERING
1 PETER 3:18**

A photograph of a sunset with a church steeple silhouette. The sky is filled with orange and yellow clouds, and the sun is low on the horizon. The church steeple is a dark silhouette against the bright sky. The foreground shows some trees and a body of water.

1ST PETER

**LIVING IN LIGHT
OF ETERNITY**

Dan. 1:8, “But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.”

1. We have two options, either walk by the Spirit and apply the teaching of Scripture or opt for the sin nature.

- 2. When we choose to obey the Word and continue walking by the Spirit this is called:**
- ***Walking in the light*, 1 John 1:7; Eph. 5:8;**
 - ***Abiding in Christ, abiding in the light*, 1 John 2:10;**
 - ***Walking in truth*, 2 John 4; 3 John 3;**
 - ***Walking by the Spirit*, Gal. 5:16;**
 - ***Walking according to the Spirit*, Rom. 8:4;**
 - ***Living according to the Spirit*, Rom. 8:5**

3. A test is a test of doctrine in our soul; therefore a test focuses on knowledge of God's Word, that is the teaching of God's Word or doctrine.

James 1:2, “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

James 1:3, “knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.”

4. Tests are not designed to expose our flaws, but primarily to reveal our obedience.

5. The process is described in James 1:3:

Testing the instruction we have internalized in our soul and the application of the faith-rest drill (FRD); this produces endurance, and as we strengthen in endurance, it leads to maturity.

6. Reasons for suffering:

1B We live in a fallen world ... it is corrupted by the fall.

6. Reasons for suffering:

2B Live with fallen creatures ... every creature is just as corrupt as the next. We all suffer because of our bad decisions and their bad decisions. We are all sinners and sinners all make bad decisions and those decisions affect those around us.

6. Reasons for suffering:

3B Live with a fallen nature ... we have a fallen nature, a sin nature.

6. Reasons for suffering:

4B The hostility of the devil's world leads to opposition; from light to severe, overt to covert.

7. Purposes of deserved and undeserved suffering.

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Deserved:

- a. Natural consequences of our own sin/ bad decision (Hos. 8:7; Gal. 6:7)**
- b. Divine discipline where God takes the natural consequences and intensifies them in the life of the believer because God is trying to get the attention of the believer to get them back in fellowship.**

7. Purposes of deserved and undeserved suffering.

Undeserved:

- a. For the unbeliever, undeserved suffering is designed as a wake-up call to evangelism.**

7. Purposes of deserved and undeserved suffering.

Undeserved:

b. For the believer, undeserved suffering is related to spiritual growth; when we go through undeserved suffering, we have the opportunity to respond by using the problem-solving devices (PSDs) and spiritual skills that allow us to advance as believers.

7. Purposes of deserved and undeserved suffering.

Undeserved:

c. It is a witness to others, both human and angelic (Job).

It is a testimony to angels, demons, and Satan.

It is a witness to unbelievers.

In a time of crisis and adversity we are to demonstrate that there are answers and that we can maintain our faith and witness to unbelievers.

7. Purposes of deserved and undeserved suffering.

Undeserved:

d. It is a testimony and encouragement to other believers.

7. Purposes of deserved and undeserved suffering.

Undeserved:

e. It brings joy to our souls and glory to God.

1 Pet. 4:12, “Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;

1 Pet. 4:13, “but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.”

Divine Viewpoint

10 Problem-Solving Devices

Trust

Faith-Rest Drill

- +

Human Viewpoint

Self-Protective Strategies

Adversity



Trust

Faith-Rest Drill

**Hostility/
Persecution**

**Unfair and unjust
People testing
System testing
Health
Finances
Loss of freedom**

**SIN
NATURE**

Adversity/Prosperity Testing (Believers)

Direct Testing

(deserved suffering)

Result of sinful choices and actions

Foolish choices [human viewpoint & human good]

Divine discipline

SUFFERING for Discipline

1 Jn. 1:9

Indirect Testing

(deserved suffering)

Satan's world (*kosmic system*)

Suffering by association with fallen creatures

Suffering for growth

Suffering for evidence: angels, unbelievers, believers

SUFFERING for Blessing

1 Pet. 3:14, “But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. ‘And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.’

1 Pet. 3:15, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness [humility/graciousness] and fear [respect];

1 Pet. 3:16, “*with the result* that you have a *good conscience*, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.”

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**συνείδησις
suneidēsis acc
fem sing
conscience,
location of
norms and
standards in
the soul**

Isa. 5:20, “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”

Mal. 2:17, “You have wearied the LORD with your words; Yet you say, ‘In what way have we wearied Him?’ In that you say, ‘Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and He delights in them,’ or, ‘Where is the God of justice?’ ”

Titus 1:15, “To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.”

1 Cor. 8:7, “However, there is not in everyone that knowledge; for some, with consciousness of the idol, until now eat it as a thing offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.”

1 Cor. 8:10, “For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols?”

1 Cor. 8:12, “But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ.”

**1 Tim. 4:2, “speaking lies in hypocrisy,
having their own conscience seared with a
hot iron,”**

Heb. 10:22, “let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.”

Acts 23:1, “Then Paul, looking earnestly at the council, said, ‘Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.’ ”

Acts 24:16, “This being so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men.”

1 Pet. 2:19, “For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully.”

1 Pet. 3:16, “having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.”

1 Pet. 3:21, “There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,”

1 Pet. 3:18, “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,”