

I Peter 4

1. According to verses 1-2, what benefit can suffering bring to us? Has this been your experience? If so, how?
2. A) When we do not join people in drunkenness, orgies, or other evil desires, how does verse 4 say they may react to us? Has this been your experience? If so, how did you respond to it? B) However, what does verse 5 say they should keep in mind? C) Because of this, what are we to do?
3. Because “The end of all things is near”, Peter says we are to do four things. A) The first is to “be clear minded and self-controlled.” Why? Are you doing this? B) The second thing is to “love each other deeply.” Why? Are you doing this? C) What is the third thing? Are you doing this? D) The fourth thing is to “use whatever gift they have received from God.” Why? Are you doing this?
4. Verses 12-19 talk about suffering as a Christian, and especially about experiencing persecution for our faith. A) What suffering have you personally experienced as a Christian? Why do you think it happened? Did anything good come out of it? What as that?

B) What key word does verse 12 refer to in talking about suffering? What does this tell us?

C) How does verse 12 say we should not react to suffering?

D) How does verse 13 say we should react? Why? Is this how you react?

E) Why does verse 14 say that we are blessed if we are insulted because we are a Christian and mention the name of Christ?

F) If we suffer because we are a Christian, what does verse 16 say that we should do, and that we should not do? Is this how you respond?

G) Verse 17 says that "it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God." What does this mean?

H) What do verses 17 and 18 imply will happen to people who are not Christians?

I Verse 19 says that suffering can be according to whose will? This being true, what two things are we told to do when suffering? Is this what you do?

J) In summary, what two things do verses 12-19 say we should not do as a Christian when we are suffering, and what four things does it say we should do?