

**1 & 2 Peter****Part 6— The Purpose of Suffering .....continued****Maturity in Christ-Maturity in the Assembly****1 Peter 2:6-25**

**1 Peter 1:10-12** As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, 11 seeking to know **what person or time** the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted **the sufferings of Christ** and **the glories to follow**. 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things **WHICH NOW have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit** sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look.

**Ephesians 3:1-13** For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— 2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace which was given to me for you;

**3 that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.** 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand **my insight into the mystery of Christ,** 5 which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; 6 to be specific, **that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,** 7 of which **I was made a minister,** according to the gift of God's grace which was given **to me according to the working of His power.** 8 **To me,** the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, 9 **and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery** which for ages **has been hidden in God who created all things;** 10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was in accordance with **the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,** 12 in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith **in Him.** 13 Therefore I ask you **not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they are your glory.**

**2 Peter 3:14-16** Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, 15 and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, 16 as also in all his letters, **speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand**, which the untaught and **unstable distort**, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

***(Acts 10:9-16)***

**Acts 10:34-36** Opening his mouth, Peter said:

**“I most certainly understand now** that God is not one to show partiality, 35 but in every nation the man who **fears Him** and **does what is right** is welcome to Him. 36 The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all)—

**1 Peter 2:4-5** 4 And coming to Him as to a **living stone** which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as **living stones, are** being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

6 For this is contained in Scripture:

“Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, A precious corner stone,

And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed.”

7 This precious value, then, **is for you who believe;** but for those who disbelieve,

“The stone which the builders rejected, This became the very corner stone,”

Again, the scriptures are written and addressed in the main to those who **believe, the called and chosen!**

8 and, “A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense”; **for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.**

9-But you **are** **A chosen race, A royal priesthood**, A holy nation, A people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who **has called you** out of darkness into His marvelous light;

10 for you once were not a people, **but now** you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, **but now** you have received mercy.

11 Beloved, **I urge you** as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

12 Keep your behaviour excellent among **the Gentiles**, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

***(Luke 1:68, 78; 7:16; 19:44) or for judgment (Isaiah 10:3;***

***Jeremiah 6:15).***

**Isaiah 10:3** Now what will you do in the day of punishment,

And in the devastation which will come from afar?

To whom will you flee for help?

And where will you leave your wealth?

### **The PLACE of suffering**

**1 Peter 2:13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake** to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority,

14 or to governors as sent by **him** for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.

**Exodus 9:16-17** But, indeed, **for this reason I have allowed you** (*Pharaoh*) **to remain, in order** to show you My power and **in order** to proclaim My name through all the earth. 17 Still you exalt yourself against My people by not letting them go.

**Romans 9:17** For the Scripture says **to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose** I raised you up, to demonstrate **My power in you**, and that **My name** might be proclaimed throughout the whole earth."

**( Romans 13)**

**1 Peter 2:15** For such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men. 16 Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bond slaves of God. 17 Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

**SUFFERING IN THE WORKPLACE**

18 Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, **but also to those who are unreasonable.**

19 For this finds favor, if for the sake of conscience **toward God** a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly.

20 For what credit is there **IF**, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But **IF** when **you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God.**

21 For you have **been called** for **this purpose**, **since Christ also suffered for you**, leaving you an **EXAMPLE** for you to **follow in His steps**,

22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth;

23 **and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;**

**5 keys to “walking in his steps”, are:**

1. Commit no sin
2. Live with no verbal deceit
3. When reviled we are not to revile in return, while sufferings
4. Utter no threats
5. Keep entrusting in Him who judges righteously.

24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, **so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.**

***(Galatians 5:16 the double negative)***

***(Romans 8:1-8.)***

***(John 19:34).***

***Isaiah 53:4-5 Surely our griefs He Himself bore,***

*And our sorrows He carried;*

*Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken,*

*Smitten of God, and afflicted.*

*5 But He was pierced through **for our transgressions,***

*He was crushed **for our iniquities;***

*The chastening **for our** well-being fell upon Him,*

*And by His scourging we are healed.*

## **1 Peter 2:25**

25 **For you were continually straying** like sheep, **but now** you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

**Matthew 1:21** She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from (*apo*) their sins."

## **SUMMARY: 1 Peter 2:6-25**

We as believers are exhorted to build our identity as "living stones" upon Jesus Christ, as the precious chief cornerstone, while calling on us to submit to civil authority and endure unjust suffering in Society and in the workplace by following the patient, sacrificial example of Jesus Christ, who suffered in silence trusting in God, we having died to our sin and living righteously.

## **Song: Hold Fast Through The Fire**