

When God's will brings suffering, entrust yourself to Him and keep doing what is right.

## I. God's will can bring suffering.

### II. Entrust yourself to Him.

## III. Keep doing what is right.

A. Tell people why you <u>hope</u> in Jesus, even if it means suffering for Him. (3:15)

- B. Because the end is near ... (4:7-11)
  - 1. Live with self-control and clear focus.
  - 2. Be in prayer.
  - 3. Keep <u>loving</u> one another earnestly.
- C. Use your spiritual gifts! (4:10-11)

How does this apply to me?



#### INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

## LIVING TOGETHER UNDER GOD

## **PASSAGE OVERVIEW:**

Peter draws this letter to a close with an exhortation to church elders. He reminds them of their role as shepherds of God's flock. Since the church belongs to God, not them, they must serve at His will and according to His will. Peter focuses on their attitude, or the spirit with which they are to serve. Ultimately, they must live exemplary lives.

While the believers are called upon to be subject to the elders, all believers (elders included) are called to walk in humility. The church must be a place where humility before our Sovereign is displayed in humility towards one another.

This is essential as we face spiritual warfare with the enemy of our souls. He would like to derail God's purposes for the church by inciting us to be proud. But God opposes the proud and gives grace to the humble.

Finally, having suffered as believers for a short while, we know that the God of Grace will restore, confirm, strengthen and establish us. He reigns in supreme eternal sovereignty. So we don't lose heart. We lean instead into Him. He is our strength, our life, our living hope.

# **READING FOR NEXT WEEK:**

1Peter 5

