

# Stand Up Under the Fiery Trial of Persecution

## 1 Peter 04:12–19

**1** *First,  
do not be surprised  
that you suffer persecution*

- a. Persecution can be fiery
- b. Persecution is a test

**2** *Second,  
rejoice in persecution*

- a. Because you share  
in Christ's sufferings
- b. Because you shall be rewarded

**3** *Third,  
know God's Spirit,  
that a glow of God's glory  
rests upon you*

**4** *Fourth,  
do not bring suffering  
and persecution upon yourself*

**5** *Fifth,  
do not be ashamed  
to suffer for being a Christian*

**6** *Sixth,  
accept persecution  
as the purifying judgment of God*

- a. Because believers  
are scarcely saved
- b. Because unbelievers  
have a terrible end

**7** *Seventh,  
keep on doing good  
and commit yourself to God*

12 Dear friends,  
do not be surprised  
at the painful trial you are suffering,  
as though something strange  
were happening to you.

13 But rejoice  
that you participate  
in the sufferings of Christ,  
so that you may be overjoyed  
when his glory is revealed.

14 If you are insulted  
because of the name of Christ,  
you are blessed,  
for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

15 If you suffer,  
it should not be as a murderer  
or thief or any other kind of criminal,  
or even as a meddler.

16 However,  
if you suffer as a Christian,  
do not be ashamed,  
but praise God that you bear that name.

17 For it is time for judgment  
to begin with the family of God:  
and if it begins with us,  
what will the outcome be  
for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

18 And, "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,  
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

19 So then,  
those who suffer according to God's will  
should commit themselves  
to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.