



Courage Under Pressure

1 Peter 4



Courage Under Pressure



¹ Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin.

² As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.

³ For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do - living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry.





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⁴ They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you.

⁵ But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

⁶ For this reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit.





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1.) Therefore

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the spirit.

2.) Christ Suffered



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3. Our attitude

Philippians 2:5-8

Your attitude should be the same as Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness, and being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death even death on a cross.



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4. Done with sin



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Before and after (V.2)



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Enough time wasted (v.3)



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A changed mind (v.4)



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Abused

John 15:18-19

If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as it's own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.





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Justice awaits

Col 2:13 -14

When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having cancelled the written code with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.



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Triumph over death

Chapter 1 verse 3 & 4

Praise be to the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you.





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Rom 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Now that is a life worth dying for and by the grace of God we should have "Courage under pressure"



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1 Peter 4:12-19

¹² Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. ¹³ Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world. ¹⁴ If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you.



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1 Peter 4:12-19

¹⁵ If you suffer, however, it must not be for murder, stealing, making trouble, or prying into other people's affairs. ¹⁶ But it is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. Praise God for the privilege of being called by his name! ¹⁷ For the time has come for judgment, and it must begin with God's household. And if judgment begins with us, what terrible fate awaits those who have never obeyed God's Good News?





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1 Peter 4:12-19

¹⁸ And also, “If the righteous are barely saved, what will happen to godless sinners?” ¹⁹ So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.”





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1. Expect suffering - it's going to happen!
(1 Peter 4:12-13)

1 Peter 4:13:

“So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world.”



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We can identify with Christ when we suffer for His name sake. It will result in: 1 Peter 4:13

- A. Joy with Him
- B. Fellowship with Him
- C. Being Glorified with Him

1 Peter 1:7 :

“These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.”



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2. In the midst of suffering and trials continue to live godly lives.

1 Peter 3:14-19

A.) God is calling us to live a life above reproach no matter how we are treated or what our circumstances are.



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1 Peter 3:9

“Don’t repay evil for evil. Don’t retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing.”

1 Peter 3:17

“Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!”



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Hebrews 12:7

“As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father?”

1 Peter 2:23

“He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly.”



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B.) If God is refining His children now, what will judgement day be like for those who do not know him?

1 Peter 4:17

And if judgment begins with us, what terrible fate awaits those who have never obeyed God's Good News?





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What is our response?



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1.) Those who know Christ :

Continue to be found faithful.

Allow Christ in you to live godly before him. He's our example.

So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.”

1 Peter 4:19 NLT





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2.) To those who don't know Christ:

Today you can make that change.



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