



HOPE

IN THE DARKNESS

Studies in I Peter



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Suffering Servants

I Peter 2:18-21

INTRODUCTION

- Problems at Work
- A Short Review of Living as Strangers
 - Abstain from Fleshly Lusts
 - Maintain Good Works
 - Submit to Civil Authority



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HOMWORK

*1 Peter 2:17 –
Honor all people, love
the brotherhood, fear
God, honor the king.*



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INTRODUCTION

- Problems at Work
- A Short Review of Living as Strangers
 - Abstain from Fleshly Lusts
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 - Submit to Civil Authority
 - Live Out Your Faith in Your Relationships
 - Relationships at Work
 - Relationships at Home
 - Counsel for Relationships



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Servants and Masters (vs.19)

- At the time of Peter's writing, what was the nature of the servant and master relationship?
- What was Peter's specific instruction to servants?
 - Respectfully submit to good masters.
 - Respectfully submit to unreasonable masters.



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Servants and Masters (vs.19)

- Can we rightly apply Peter's instructions to servants to our modern employee/employer relationships?



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Servants and Suffering (vs.19-20)

- A Harsh Reality: Sometimes faithful Christian servants suffer unjustly.
- A Sad Reality: When faithful Christian servants suffer unjustly there is often much sorrow.
- A Challenging Response: Faithful Christian servants who suffer unjustly are challenged to bear up.



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Servants and Suffering (vs.19-20)

- A Hopeful Result: Faithful Christian servants who bear up when suffering unjustly find favor with God.



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Suffering Servants and Favor (vs.19-20)

- What does it mean to find favor with God?
- What kind of suffering finds favor with God?
 - Not suffering as a result of sin.
 - Suffering on account of doing right.



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Suffering Servants and Calling (vs.19-20)

- Our calling as Christians includes suffering.
- We willingly and joyfully accept this calling because Jesus suffered for us; providing us:
 - An Example to Follow
 - A Path to Follow



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CONCLUSIONS

Three Challenges:

1. Don't look for praise (or pity) for enduring suffering produced by your own sin.
2. Don't be surprised by occupational suffering in spite of being a submissive servant.
3. Faithfully represent the Gospel by respectfully submitting to your occupational authority.



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CONCLUSIONS

Two Encouragements:

1. Jesus suffered as you are suffering. He understands your suffering.
2. God is pleased when we endure suffering like Jesus endured suffering.



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