



***Equipped For The Inevitable***  
***“The Victory of Christ’s Suffering” (Part 2)***

**1 Peter 3:18-22**

The magnificent *victory* Jesus achieved in His death and resurrection is without question the single most significant and compelling event in the history of human kind. It was not only a victory over sin, death, and hell, but also the ultimate victory over Satan and the demonic forces. God the Father predetermined redemption through the suffering of God the Son. In a compelling, complete, and profound way, Jesus perfectly and victoriously achieved that redemption.

Peter teaches four major principles about the Lord’s victory: His payment for sin; His proclamation of His finished work on the cross; His perfect salvation; His complete preeminence.

Last week we focused on the first two principles of Peter’s teaching about Jesus’ suffering:

***Jesus achieved victory through His suffering as payment for sin. (1 Peter 3:18a)***

***Jesus proclaimed His victory over sin and death to His enemies. (1 Peter 3:18b-20a)***

The third principle Peter teaches us is in vv. 20b-21:

***Jesus’ suffering was the pathway to His perfect salvation. (1 Peter 3:20b-21)***

Peter saw an analogy for the triumphant salvation provided through Christ and states, “**when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah**” (before sending the Flood). The Lord was patient with the corrupt world, as **Genesis 6:3** says, “**My Spirit shall not strive with man forever because he is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.**” We should not conclude that God is saying the lifespan of man be limited to 120 years. He is saying mankind, although utterly corrupt and wicked because of demonic possession and influence, has been granted a 120-year time frame to repent.

The fourth principle Peter teaches us is in v.22:

***Jesus’ suffering has resulted in His complete preeminence. (1 Peter 3:22)***

Peter finishes this passage with a powerful truth concerning Christ’s suffering. Both the Old and New Testaments affirm **the right hand** as a place of prestige and power. **The right**

**hand of God** is the preeminent place of honor and authority for all eternity. This is where Jesus went after He finished His work of redemption. Jesus rules all things today from that place. (cf. ***Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1:3-6***)

Christ died for lost human beings. The demons could only listen in dismay to Jesus' awesome and thunderous proclamation of victory. Even the holy angels can only marvel at what they cannot fully understand, but we, His elect saints, intimately know the marvelous grace of His great salvation. How mightily the Lord God brings triumph and purpose out of the persecution of the Savior! ***“But thanks be to God, who always leads us in His triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.” (2 Corinthians 2:14)***

We, who are true followers of Christ, when reminded of His great victory on our behalf should respond to Him in glorious praise and lives of obedience to His Word!

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