

We often do not know the full meaning of a virtue until we see it lived out in a person's life. Think of how Jesus responded when the soldiers mistreated Him. They pressed a crown of thorns into His head, struck Him repeatedly, and mocked Him by clothing Him in a purple robe and bowing before Him in jest (Mark 15:16-20). They were unaware that He had the power to kill every one of them by speaking a single word.

About 35 years later, Peter vividly remembered that scene. He told his readers that Christ had set an example for them as they faced persecution (1 Peter 2:18-25). In Jesus, God became a flesh-and-blood human being to show what He is like. Because Jesus lives in us by His Spirit, He expects us to exemplify His goodness and grace.

Whether we suffer like that invalid mother or endure persecution like the Master, we can demonstrate the same virtue He modeled on the cross. — Herb Vander Lugt

*The difficulties in our lives,
The obstacles we face,
Provide the opportunity
To show God's power and grace. —Sper*

God's love is the blessing in every trial.



Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Virtue Exemplified

Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps. —1 Peter 2:21

In the late 1940s, a young mother was stricken with polio and became an invalid. She astounded people by the way she accepted her affliction and ran her household from her bed. Her brother-in-law said to me, "I have heard a lot of talk about 'God's grace,' but I never knew what it was until I saw it shining through her."





I Peter: Overcoming Suffering How to Suffer Well II

In 1 Peter 2:18-25 Peter gives us 4 guidelines to reacting to harsh treatment in the workplace:

1. **Submit**, verse 18
2. **Fear God**, verse 18
3. **Patient Endurance**, verses 17-20

4. Christlikeness, verse 21-25

There are five aspects to a Christlike response to suffering in verses 21-25:

- ◆ No _____,

α β γ δ ε ζ (Isaiah 53:9) "... Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth."

η θ ι κ λ μ (James 3:2) "... If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body."

ν ξ ο π ρ σ
τ υ φ χ φ ω

- ◆ No _____,

(Isaiah 53:7) "... He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth."

(Matthew 26:59-60) "Now the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, {60} but found none. ..."

(Matthew 27:11-12) "Now Jesus stood before the governor..." {12} And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing."

(Matthew 27:27-31) "Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. {28} And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. {29} When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" {30} Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head. {31} And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified."

(John 19:5-6) "Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, "Behold the Man!" {6} Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" ..."

(Matthew 27:39-44) "And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads {40} and saying, "You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." {41} Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes



and elders, said, {42} "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. {43} "He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" {44} Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing."

(Ephesians 4:29-32) "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. {30} And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. {31} Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. {32} And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you."



- ◆ No _____,

(Luke 23:34) "... "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." ..."

(Matthew 5:44-45) ""But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, {45} "that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."

- ◆ Full _____,

(1 Peter 2:23) "... Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly." [paraphrase]

(1 Peter 2:23) ... He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly [paraphrase]

(1 Peter 2:23) ... He let God, the One who judges rightly, take care of him [paraphrase]

- ◆ Full _____ and full _____,

(Luke 22:41-42) "And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, {42} saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.""

(Luke 22:44) "And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. ..."

(Hebrews 7:27) "... for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself."

(Hebrews 9:12) "Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption."

(John 7:38) ""He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.""