

**Living in Exile: The Victory of Christ's Suffering**  
**I Peter 3:18-22**

**I Peter 3:17** *For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.*

**I Peter 3:18-22** *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.*

**Truth #1:** Christ's suffering reveals that the Gospel is Good News.

**Romans 3:23** *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*

**Isaiah 59:2** *but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.*

**I Peter 3:18** *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous ...*

**Hebrews 10:11-12** *And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God*

**I Peter 3:18** *... that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit*

**Truth #2:** The Gospel has always been the Good News.

**I Peter 3:19-20** *in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.*

**Truth #3:** The Gospel is still the Good News.

**I Peter 3:21** *Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you ...*

**I Peter 3:21-22** *... not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.*

**Romans 8:18** *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*

**Application:**

-You must believe in the Gospel.

**I Peter 3:18** *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God*

**I Peter 3:20** *because they formerly did not obey ...*

-You must believe in the Gospel while there is still time.

**I Peter 3:20** *... when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared*

**II Peter 3:9** *The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.*

**II Peter 3:10** *But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.*

-When you reject the Gospel, you choose the Judgment of God.

**I Peter 3:20** *... in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.*

**I Peter 3:19-20** *in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey ...*

“Burning like a livid coal not for an instant or a day, but millions and millions of ages at the end of which people will realize they’re no closer to the end than when they began; never ever to be delivered from that place.”

-George Whitfield