

Argument and Overview

Saturday, October 20, 2012
4:24 PM

Premise: In the face of persecution we must return to the fundamentals of the gospel to remind ourselves of the significance of our salvation and the purpose of our salvation, which is to glorify Christ. Once we understand the significance and purpose of our salvation, we will be ready to understand how both the suffering of Christ and our suffering is leading to our ultimate glorification. Then we will be able to bear up under it in a way that brings glory to God.

Short Premise: The magnificence of salvation and the example of Christ enables the suffering Christian to proclaim the excellencies of Christ.

1. **Introduction: Exiles of the Dispersion. (1:1-2)**
2. The Fundamentals of Salvation: Why is Peter bothering to write? (1:3-2:12)
 - a. **The Blessings of Salvation or the Sufferings of Persecution: Which is more fundamental? (1:3-12)**
 - b. **The Responsibility of Salvation: How do we act because of salvation and in the face of persecution? (1:13-2:3)**
 - c. **A Precious Stone and a Chosen People: What is the end and purpose of salvation and how do we live that out? (2:4-12)**

-Transition from 2 to 3, the purpose of salvation is to proclaim the excellencies of Christ (2:9)-

3. Proclaiming His Excellencies: How are we to proclaim to the persecutor? (2:13-3:17)
 - a. **Willing Submission to Worldly Authorities: How do we demonstrate our translation from their kingdoms into Christ's kingdom? (2:13-25)**
 - b. **Christ Honoring Relationships between Husbands and Wives: How do we demonstrate to our spouses and to the world the significance of life in Christ? (3:1-7)**
 - c. **Righteously Responding to Suffering: How do we react to persecutors to demonstrate our position in Christ? (3:8-17)**

-Transition from 3 to 4, suffering is a chance for proclaiming the excellencies of Christ-

-All three of these categories were people that were persecuting them (worldly authorities, unregenerate spouses, and all other persecutors) and they were able to proclaim the excellencies of Christ in each situation)-

4. A Theology of Suffering: What is the purpose of the persecutor? (3:18-4:19)
 - a. **Christ Also Suffered: How does Christ's suffering lead to our justification? (3:18-4:1)**
 - b. **Following Our Exalted Head: How does Christ's example spur us on to fight for sanctification and not give up in the face of persecution? (4:1-11)**
 - c. **The Right Way to Suffer: Suffering for righteousness leads to glorification. (4:12-19)**

-Transition from 4 to 5, how do we entrust our souls to a faithful Creator? (4:19)-

5. Final Instructions: How can we live out the instructions of this letter? (5:1-14)
 - a. **The Role of the Church in the Christian Life: Where can we live out godly leadership and submission? (5:1-5)**
 - b. **The Proper Attitudes of the Christian Life: How should we prepare our minds for submission to Christ through suffering? (5:6-11)**
 - c. **Conclusion: The true and universal gospel that brings peace. (5:12-13)**