

**STUDYING THROUGH
1 PETER (27)**



**Committing our Souls
to Him**

1 Peter 4:17-19

Previously

Peter continues to encourage his audience to faithfully endure, even though they were facing trials and tribulations.

Our last lesson addressed suffering as a Christian, instead of for wrong doing and bad behavior.

- Today, a reason behind this instruction.

Time for judgment to begin (17)

The time has come for judgment...

God's final judgment is yet future (we are here!).

- We do not know when He will return, but He has promised He will – **2 Peter 3:10, 1 Thessalonians 5:2, etc.**

HOW was it time for judgment to begin? Consider that God's judgment comes in many ways – **cf. Isaiah 3:13-14.**

Context helps us know this is different.

Time for judgment to begin (17)

The time has come for judgment...

NOW is the time of this judgment - this is a call to action for these brethren. A call to take their stand. God is watching to see how we will respond to troubles – **Romans**

13:11-12

God is judging based upon how we live – **Romans 14:10-12, John 5:28-29, Revelation 20:12-15**

Time for judgment to begin (17)

Begins with the house of God

Likely a reference to His church –
the saved – Peter's audience

– Will we remain faithful?

Hebrews 10:35, 3:14;

Acts 14:21-22; Galatians 6:9,

Colossians 1:21-23

1 Corinthians 15:58

Time for judgment to begin (17)

What will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel?

Simply stated – they will face the wrath of God.

If God expects faithfulness from believers, certainly unbelievers will answer as well –

2 Thessalonians 1:8

“Scarcely saved” (18)

“Now, If the righteous one is scarcely saved...”

- **Proverbs 11:31** – NOTE: This reads differently in most of our versions, BUT the LXX (Greek translation of the OT) records it as quoted in our text.

“Scarcely saved” (18)

“Now, If the righteous one is scarcely saved...”

“Scarcely” from Greek, μόλις, (molis) is found 6x in NT **Acts 14:18** – Paul and Barnabas could “scarcely” contain the crowd (hardly, with difficulty)

Romans 5:7 – “scarcely” for a righteous man, one would die. (Rarely)

Acts 27:7-8, 16 – with difficulty the ship was piloted

“Scarcely saved” (18)

“Now, If the righteous one is scarcely saved...”

If “Scarcely” means hardly or barely, that does not give us much hope. More likely translation is, “with difficulty”. That actually fits the context of suffering better. Christians who face difficult situations and overcome, will be rewarded for such – eternally.

“Scarcely saved” (18)

“Now, If the righteous one is scarcely (with difficulty) saved...”

But consider how many believers will in times of trouble fall away:

Matthew 13:20-21 – the stony soil

Hebrews 10:25ff – don’t abandon your brethren

2 Timothy 4:10 – Demas

Luke 9:62, John 12:42-43

cf. Revelation 2:10 – faithful till death

“Scarcely saved” (18)

“Where will the ungodly and sinner appear?”

“Ungodly” – the irreverent (consider the many we have discussed in our study of 1 Peter who make it difficult for Christians)

“Sinner” – one engaged in sinful behavior. In our text, clearly the one who refuses to obey.

Their eternal fate – **Matthew 25:41, 46, 2 Thessalonians 1:3-10, Romans 1:18**

Commit your souls to God (19)

“Therefore, let those who suffer according to the will of God...”

Many question why God allows suffering – (Is it His desire that we suffer?)

Many reasons can be cited –

- 1) He **ALLOWS** it, and desires that **IF** we suffer, we remain faithful
- 2) It makes this world less appealing
- 3) It can make us better
- 4) It can cause us to appreciate what we have
- 5) We learn to trust Him

Commit your souls to God (19)

“Therefore, let those who suffer according to the will of God...”

“According to the will of God can also mean, we suffer AS WE DO His will. Again, this fits the context well (**see vs. 16**)

As we live godly, we may face persecutions (**cf. 2 Timothy 3:12, Matthew 5:10-12, etc.**)

Commit your souls to God (19)

“...commit their souls to Him”

Commit can mean to make up your mind (as in a commitment)

But here, the word likely means “to entrust” – by faith we put our confidence in Him –

cf. Luke 23:47, 2 Timothy 1:12.

Rather than quit, we “double down” and trust Him

Commit your souls to God (19)

**“...commit their souls to Him
in doing good”**

Because we trust Him, we are going
to keep doing what is right – letting
God determine what is good

Galatians 6:9, 1 Peter 2:14 (7x
in this letter), **Romans 2:7**

Commit your souls to God (19)

“...as to a faithful Creator”

Be reminded, God made the world and all that is in it. He IS in control!

Man does not care about your righteousness OR God. Often, he despises Him and you.

When faced with a choice, who will you choose? Passing pleasures of sin for awhile OR serving God with hope of eternal reward.

Commit your souls to God (19)

“...as to a faithful Creator”

Serving God many not be easy, but in the end it reaps a much better reward

Hebrews 6:10-12, Revelation 14:13, 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:4



Studies in 1 Peter



**What are you willing
to endure for Him?**

Matthew 10:28



Studies in 1 Peter



Let us pray!