

1 Peter 4:12-19

1. The believer is not to be surprised (v.12).

"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you."

"Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,"
(2 Tim 3:12 ESV)

2. The believer is to rejoice (v.13).

"But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed."

"Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. (Acts 5:41 ESV)

3. The believer is blessed (v.14).

"If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you."

"He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward."
(Heb 11:26 ESV)

4. The believer is to live a godly life (v.15).

"But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler."

"For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution,

how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard,"
(Heb 2:2-3 ESV)

5. The believer is to glorify God (v.16).

"Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name."

"as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death." (Phil 1:20 ESV)

6. The believer accepts the judgement of God (vv.17-18).

"For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

"For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things."
(Phil 3:18-19 ESV)

7. The believer entrusts themselves to God (v.19).

"Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good."

"The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen."
(2 Tim 4:18 ESV)