Studies in First Peter *I Peter 4:12-19 Final Words on Suffering for Christ* June 7, 2020

Intro: As we move to the last verses of Chapter Four, we come to Peter's last detailed guidance on the glory of suffering for Christ. It is a blessing, not a curse to be able to suffer for the cause of Christ.

- I. We Need a Heavenly, Eternal Mindset
 - A. Trials and tribulations for the faith should not cause us any surprise
 - 1. James 1:1-5
 - 2. John 15:18-20
 - B. The revelation of His glory—His Second Coming
 - 1. Keep rejoicing in suffering for Christ
 - At His Second Coming we will be able to rejoice with exultation Gk from: agin-much & hallomai-jump for joy We will jump for joy exceedingly when Jesus comes again
- II. To Be Reviled for the Name of Christ is to be Blessed
 - A. The Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you
 - B. Take care not to be guilty of sinful behavior and thus suffer appropriately
 - 1. murder
 - 2. thievery
 - 3. evil behavior
 - 4. troublesome meddler (one who tries to interfere outside his domain)
- III. There Is No Shame in Suffering as a Christian
 - A. We can glorify God in the Name of Jesus
 - B. If we suffer for Christ, we do so in the will of God
 - C. We must entrust ouselves to a faithful Creator in doing what is right
- IV. Judgment Begins with the Household of God
 - A. Judgment will start with us (at the judgment seat of Christ)
 - B. If it starts with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not know Jesus and the Gospel