

## **The Unsurprising Suffering of Jesus' People. 1 Peter 4:12-19**

### **Suffering – Distasteful and Unfashionable**

#### **But unsurprising 4:12**

What is the suffering Peter is speaking of [5:9]

Fiery ordeal [1 Pet. 1:6-7, Mal. 3:2-4]

v. 15 Not suffering for doing wrong, rather suffering for doing good [3:17]

Sharing in the suffering of Christ v. 13

v. 14 ridiculed for the name of Christ

v. 16 as a Christian

Why not unusual [2:9, 4-5, 1:14-17] – Jesus' experience [1 Peter 2:21-24, 3:18, 22]

Jesus' teaching [John 15:18-21, Matt. 5:11, 24:9, 1 John 3:13]

Yet we are still surprised

#### **How God teaches us to see our suffering**

v. 13 a Cause of Joy

v. 14 A sign of present blessing

v. 16 An opportunity to honour God, resisting shame

Why should I accept God's assessment?

**The Suffering of Believers in God's plan vv. 17-18** [Mal. 4:1-5, Ezekiel 9:1-6; Acts 17:30-31; Prov. 11:31 LXX, Lk. 9:23-24, Matt. 24:13, Acts 14:22]

**Conclusion v. 18. A Time for Perseverance** [Luke 23:46]