

# **Biblical Take on Suffering**

I Peter 4:12-19

# Biblical Take on Suffering -

## I. Expect it.

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- Sober minded people are alert to what is real.

“Another tool He uses to mold us into the likeness of our Lord is trial and hardship. Yes, suffering is one of the chief tools in God’s tool chest.

Through suffering, He shapes us and chisels away all the dross – and through time, we become more like Him. My friend Todd wrote a song. I like to quote part of it here because it contains such sound biblical truth:

I will not resist You when You move  
Your hand to mold me.

I will not insist You show me all your  
plans today.

I will not despise the tools You're using  
now to shape me.

I will not require understanding to  
obey.”

– Wayne Mack; Finding Hope  
When Times Are Tough

# Matthew 5:10 & 11

- 10 Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11 Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

# Biblical Take on Suffering -

## II. Embrace it.

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- Choose to work toward the benefit & blessing of a right response to suffering.



## Romans 8:18

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

# Biblical Take on Suffering -

## III. Evaluate it.

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- There is an abundance of wrong thinking about suffering.

## **Acts 5:40 & 41**

<sup>40</sup> They took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them.

<sup>41</sup> So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.

# **Biblical Take on Suffering -**

## **IV. Entrust my soul to God.**

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- Trust is obedience.