1 Peter
Lesson # 16 –Glorify God in Suffering
Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-19

Introduction:
1. Last lesson we discussed serving for the glory of God
2. Christians must be prepared to handle suffering in the flesh for the cause of Christ.
3. Preparation comes from having the mindset to...

I. REJOICE IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING -4:12-14
A. WE ARE PARTAKERS IN THE SUFFERING OF CHRIST
   1. We should not think suffering is strange for we have been warned
      a. Jesus said a servant is not greater than his master –Jn 15:18-20
      b. Paul also warned -2Ti 3:12
   2. We can rejoice when He is revealed
      a. We will reign with Him -2Ti 2:12
      b. We will be glorified together -Ro 8:16-17

B. WE ARE BLESSED WHEN WE ARE REPROACHED
   1. Reproached –to be accused of something, or rebuked
   2. God never leaves us nor forsakes us

II. GLORIFY GOD -4:15-19
A. WE DO NOT SUFFER AS AN EVIL DOER –vs. 15
   1. The punishment for such behavior is just
   2. The actions do not glorify God, but rather give opportunity to the enemies of Christ

B. WE SUFFER AS CHRISTIANS
   1. There is no reason for shame
      a. Enemies of God will mock and try to humiliate Christians
      b. We remember how Christ was mocked, treated, and yet He endured.
   2. We have the mindset to glorify God in all we do
      a. We live for Christ –Ph 1:21
      b. Even in the midst of death, it is to His glory -2Ti 4:6, Jn 21:18-19

C. WE REMEMBER THE FATE OF THOSE WHO PERSECUTE THE CHURCH –vs. 17-18
   1. If God allows Christians to suffer, how much more for those who do not obey?
      a. One who dies for Christ goes on to eternal reward
      b. The one who killed the Christian endures hell unless he repents
      c. This understanding caused Steven to pray for his murderers –Ac 7:60
   2. We are committed to the One who judges righteously -1Pe 2:23

Conclusion:
1. The Christian life is not the easiest, but it is the greatest life one can live.
2. We endure because the reward is worth all we have to put in to it.