

1 PETER

Hope and Suffering "The Security of the Suffering"

INTRO: *1 Peter is the fulfillment of Jesus' prophecy in Luke 22:31-32. The Apostle encouraged 1st century Christians by preparing them for the impending assault against their faith. He wrote from Rome around 64 A.D. Did this impending threat mean that God doesn't care about Christians?*

I. Christians are _____ in this world. *While the term specifically referred to Believers separated by distance and through persecution, it also describes all Christians who are citizens of heaven first (Cf. Col. 3:20-21).*

II. Alienated Believers may question God's _____. *Living in a world spiritually hostile to ones' faith can prompt concerns about the nature and extent of God's care.*

III. Rest in God's _____ and _____; He is eternally committed to His _____. *Grace and mercy are experienced fully when we remember God's commitment to us in salvation (Cf. Ephesians 1:3-14).*

A. The Father _____. *This was accomplished through His determinative foreknowledge (Cf. 1:20).*

B. The Spirit _____ us _____. *His sanctification enabled obedience to the gospel (Cf. 1 Peter 1:22; Rom. 1:5; 16:26; John 6:28-29).*

C. The Son shed His _____. *This initiated our entrance into the New Covenant (Cf. Ex. 24:8)*