

1 PETER

Hope & Suffering "Choosing to Suffer"

INTRO: *Having discussed the Believers' proper response to suffering, Peter now addressed the necessity of **choosing** to suffer for doing what is right (and pleasing God) instead of seeking comfort due to external pressure.*

I. Following _____ example, Believers purpose to live to satisfy God's _____ (4:1-3). *Before salvation, we lived to satisfy **natural lusts**, but since Jesus' death freed us from sin's mastery (2:24; Romans 6:11), we follow Jesus' example so that **not even the threat of death** should deter our living for God.*

II. Believers will be tempted to _____ into behavior that characterized their former lives when _____ by Unbelievers (4:4). *The unbelieving world exerts conforming pressure to live by the philosophy: "Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die." Their mockery seeks to condemn us and justify their own sinful behavior.*

III. Choose to _____ being maligned in this life (like Christ) because _____ follows death (4:5-6). *We may receive judgment from the world (mockery) and judgment from sin (physical death), but our reception of the gospel guarantees heaven's judgment of eternal life with God after death!*

A. _____.

B. _____.