

1 PETER

Hope & Suffering

"Worry and the Persecuted Church"

INTRO: *In this final section, Peter addressed the Church in her united stance against persecution. She must stay focused and faithful without worry or else risk spiritual damage.*

- I. **The Church will suffer _____.** *God sovereignly allows persecution to **refine** us and set us on the divine **path** to glory.*

- II. _____ **about persecution will prevent the Church from _____ in a healthy manner and render her easy prey for the _____.** *The center verse of this passage (v.7) reveals the central issue.*

- III. **To function as a healthy _____ and prevent becoming easy prey for the _____, *humbly* cast all _____ about persecution upon God (5:1-14).** *As Martin Luther advised, "Pray, and let God worry."*
 - A. *To function as a healthy Church, Elders must _____ God's people (5:1-5).*

 - B. *To prevent becoming easy prey for the Devil, all must vigilantly _____ him (5:8-9).*

 - C. *To accomplish both requires _____ (5:6-7).*