TRUTH FROM AN OLD FISHERMAN #8: BASIC - AND ADVANCED SUFFERING PART 1

Text: 1 Peter 3

1. Ask God to Help You Develop Godly Attributes to Prepare You for Your Certain Suffering (1 Peter 3:8)

1 Peter 3:8 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

2. Resisting Worldly (and Personal) Evil is a Must! (3:9-12)

3:9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

¹⁰ For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit;

11 let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

3. True Christians are Blessed(!) if They Suffer for Righteousness (Your Christian Behavior and Testimony)...and Be Ready to Always(!) Provide a "Defense" for the Gospel's Impact on Your Life (3:13-17)

3:13 Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good?

¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,

¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

16 having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.

James 1:2-3