

“Joy (and Suffering) for the Journey”

1 Peter 1:6-9

April 24, 2022

John 16:33 NASB

In the world you have tribulation

1 Peter 1:6 (NASB95)

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,

What does the phrase “in this you greatly rejoice” refer to? The content of verses 3-5:

born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; to obtain an inheritance, imperishable, undefiled not fade-reserved/guarded Salvation includes reward, glory, Jesus

Then comes verse 6!

What can we learn here?

Our trials are temporary. (“for a little while” v.6)

Psalm 30:5 says, “Weeping endures for a night, but joy comes in the morning.”

Peter wants his fellow travelers to know there are limits to what they will suffer.

**Our trials last only “for a little while.”
Our joy is forever. We have a living hope!**

1 Peter 5:10 (NASB95)

¹⁰ After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you.

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NASB95)

momentary, light affliction

First thing—our trials are temporary.

The next thing we learn in this passage is that

Our trials refine us.

Look at what Peter says in verse 7

Temporarily we are distressed by various trials

1 Peter 1:7 (NASB95)

⁷ so that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

Where do pain and suffering come from?

Some comes from our own foolish decisions

Some from just living in a fallen world

Some is the discipline of the Lord who loves us

Some is testing for the ultimate strengthening of our faith. This last one is what Peter is focusing on here.

**Our trials are temporary.
Our trials refine us.**

Our trials are not worthy to be compared with the glorious future that awaits us.

1 Peter 1:8–9 (NASB95)

⁸ and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

For Peter, seeing is not believing. Trusting in what God has promised is. We don't live by seeing, but by hearing and trusting.

**Paul puts it this way in Romans and Corinthians:
Romans 8:18 (NASB95)**

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NASB95)

¹⁷ For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,