

Enduring unjust difficulty pleases God

You are a slave at work - 1 Peter 2:18-20

Introduction

SLAVERY

Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable. 19 For this finds favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly. 20 For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God.

#1 God's crazy expectation of you toward your authorities - SUBMIT¹⁸

SUBMIT

MASTER

RESPECT

Philippians 2:14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing;

GOOD AND GENTLE

UNREASONABLE

Romans 13:1 Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. 2 Therefore he who resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God

Acts 5:29 We must obey God rather than men

#2 God is pleased when you experience unjust suffering, even as you submit, if you – ENDURE 19

FAVOR

CONSCIENCE TOWARD GOD

SORROWS

ENDURE

Matthew 5:10 Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

#3 The danger AND blessing for Christians when authorities are unfair; SINNING OR PLEASING GOD 20

3:14 But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled,

*4:14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you
Matthew 5:11 "Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. 12 "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

1 Choose to be REJOICING and not into COMPLAINING

2 Determine to be SUBMITTING and not into SUBVERTING

3 Resolve to be WORKING for Christ and not for OTHERS

Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men

4 Embrace being WEAK so that Christ's STRENGTH will shine

2 Corinthians 12:9 ... "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

5 Compare your SUFFERING to the CROSS of Christ