

Sermon Guide

1 Peter 4:1-19



► Author Scot McKnight states, “...our world has almost no belief in a ‘divine end’ to history. In fact, even Christians today seem to have lost much of their moral nerve about the end of history climaxing in a judgment that will decide the fate of all people. Such ideas are clearly found in the Bible, but they have sometimes become an outright embarrassment to Christians.” Do

you agree with his statements? If so, why do you think the end of history and resulting judgment has become embarrassing for Christians? Do you feel similarly?

Read [1 Peter 4:1-19](#)

1. How does your lifestyle differ from non-Christians? From verses 7-10, what are some priorities that a Christian should have in their life?
2. What standard does Peter set for us in this passage regarding what we say and do?
3. How is rejoicing in suffering different from just enduring suffering? Does God really expect us to be glad we suffer? What is meant by “rejoice” (v.13)?

GROW



► If you had to give an account to God about your life tomorrow, how would you live differently today?

► If you were to rate yourself on the “love meter” from 1 (shallow) to 10 (deep), how have you been doing at showing love to others lately?

► How can you be an encourager to someone this week who is suffering or going through a difficult time?

GLORIFY

- Peter exhorts Christians to imitate Christ in light of the truth that the “end of all things is at hand” (v. 7) and one day we will have to give an account of our lives “to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead” (v. 5). We are to wait eagerly and expectantly for our Lord and Savior to return while we “continue to do good” on this Earth (v. 19). Listen to the song, sing along, and/or read the lyrics of “[Even So Come](#)” by Kristian Stanfill.