

JULY 8, 2018
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SURVIVING THE STORM
TOPICS: TRIALS, ENDURANCE, REJOICING

DON'T BE SURPRISED!
1 Peter 4:12-19

“Bad days will come for each one of us, and the more we’ve thought these things through ahead of time, the better prepared we’ll be when tragedy strikes or struggles emerge.”

Terri Blackstock

Fiery ordeals should be expected (1 Peter 4:12)

(Matthew 5:10-12; 10:14, 17, 21-36; John 15:18-21; Acts 4:3; 5:41; 7:58; 12:5; 14:19, 22; 1 Corinthians 4:8-13; 2 Corinthians 6:18-10; James 1; 1 Peter 4:4)

Why are we always so surprised?

Fiery ordeals are fiery because of their **intensity**, and fiery because of their **purpose**.

Hardships are part of **life**; trials are part of **the faith**.

Fiery ordeals should prompt rejoicing (1 Peter 4:13)

(1 Peter 1:6-7; Acts 5:40-41)

We don’t rejoice because **we’re suffering**; we rejoice because **we’re accomplishing something**!

Suffering is not a sign of God’s **absence**; it’s a sign of his **presence**.

Fiery ordeals should prompt evaluation (1 Peter 4:14-18)

(Malachi 3:1-4)

Suffering for Jesus’ name gives **God’s approval and glory**.

When we bring it on ourselves, suffering reminds us **it’s time to change our ways**.

If you keep **bumping into the same wall**, maybe it’s time to **look for the doorway**.

Fiery ordeals should be prompt trust (1 Peter 4:19)

(Luke 23:46)

When we do it right, we suffer for doing **God’s will, God’s way**.

When we do it right, when the going gets tough, **we keep on being faithful**.