

Think It Not Strange

1 Peter 4:12

*(KJV) Beloved, **think it not strange** concerning the fiery trial which is to try you,*

Think It Not Strange

A Theology for Enduring Suffering and Persecution

1 Peter 4:12-19

You Are Love – v. 12

1 Peter 4:12

Beloved, do not be surprised

*Persecution should produce joy
rather than surprise. v. 12-13*

1 Peter 4:12

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

1 Peter 4:13

But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

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1 Peter 1:6

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,

1 Peter 1:7

so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Acts 14:22

*...through many tribulations we
must enter the kingdom of God.*

1 Peter 4:12

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1 Peter 4:13

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*Persecution is proof that the Spirit
of God rests upon you – v.14*

1 Peter 4:14

If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

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Isaiah 11:1

*There shall come forth a shoot
from the stump of Jesse, and a
branch from his roots shall bear
fruit.*

Isaiah 11:2

And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

“One great lesson arose from all the beatings, tortures, and butchery of the Communists: that the spirit is master of the body.”

We felt the torture, but it often seemed as something distant and far removed from the spirit which was lost in the glory of Christ and His presence with us.” ~ Pastor Richard Wurmbbrand

*Persecution should not be
viewed as a source of shame,
but rather as an opportunity to
glory in Christ – v. 15-16*

1 Peter 4:15

But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.

1 Peter 4:16

Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.

Be grateful for the purifying flames of persecution rather than the condemning flames of God's wrath – v.17-18

1 Peter 4:17

For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

1 Peter 4:18

And “If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

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1 Peter 4:19

Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Luke 23:46

*“Father, into your hands I **commit**
(entrust) my spirit!”*