

RECAP

Elect - chosen, selected, picked up; speaks to God's care/concern for us

- **As Elect** - God has given us new birth into a living hope and into an inheritance that never perishes, spoils, or fades

Exiles - temporary residents in a foreign land; speaks to our relationship to the community in which we live

- **As Exiles** - expect to suffer as a byproduct of following Jesus

1
PETER
4:12-19

Three commands

- Don't be surprised at your suffering, it is nothing strange (and can actually be used by God for your good)
- Rejoice inasmuch as (to the degree that) you participate in the sufferings of Jesus
- Commit yourself to your faithful Creator and continue to do good

1
PETER
4:12-19

Suffering - a fiery ordeal

- **Refiner's fire** - brings impurities to surface
- **Test** - opportunity to see genuineness/quality of one's faith
- **1 Peter 1.6-7** - trials = tests, same word



1
PETER
4:12-19

Rejoice inasmuch as you participate in sufferings of Jesus-

- **Rejoice-** to be in a state of gladness, happiness, or well-being
- **Two examples:**
 - If you are insulted b/c of name of Jesus, you are blessed (a privileged recipient of divine favor) b/c the Holy Spirit lives in you
 - If you suffer as a follower of Jesus, rejoice because you have shared in the sufferings of Christ, and you will receive his glory and honor when he is revealed to all people.

1
PETER
4:12-19

Commit yourself to your faithful Creator and continue to do good

- **Suffering according to God's will**
- experiencing persecution as a byproduct of following Jesus
- **Commit** - entrust yourself to God with confidence that He can preserve you

1
PETER
4:12-19

Tests in the Bible

Set up by God

- **Abraham** - Gen 22; will Abraham sacrifice Isaac, the son of promise?
- **Manna** - Ex 16.4/Deut 8.16; will Israelites trust God for *daily* bread?

Allowed by God/results of fallen world

- **False prophets** - Deut 13.3; will Israel remain true to the Lord if someone performing miracles tries to lead them towards other gods?
- **Nations** - Jud 2.22; will Israel 'keep the way of the Lord' or follow the gods of the nations/their neighbors?