

1 Peter 3:13-17

Even In the Midst of the Worst Kind of Chaotic Circumstances/Suffering
Believers Can Choose Stability of Character as We Continue to Trust/Obey the LORD

Interrogative v13

Who is going to harm us for doing good? As a general rule people will not harm us for doing good/living righteously...thus when it does happen it is especially disorienting

Romans 8:31: If God is for us, who can be against us (such that it matters spiritually)?

Insight (DVP) One v14a

If/when we do suffer for righteousness sake...

...we are blessed (spiritually-because we are functioning as spiritual salt/light!)

Imperatives v14b-16

If/when we do suffer for righteousness we should not fear what “they” say about us

If/when we do suffer for righteousness we should sanctify Christ as Lord (note: this command is to believers!) and.....say positive things/reasons for our faith with kindness toward “them” and with reverence toward God/the situation, so that in His time, God might work to convict those who attack us (2:11-12; the Life of Paul)

Insight (DVP) Two v17

It is better for us to do good/right and suffer for it...

...than for us to compromise our character/convictions and avoid suffering

Take This To Heart

We cannot cause our circumstances in this world to be consistent/stable, but we can choose to remain consistent/stable in our Christian convictions doctrinally and morally regardless of how painful/uncertain our circumstances.

Speaking of Prayer (3:7; 3:12): This is primarily how we should pray for ourselves and others when in the midst of chaotic circumstances/suffering