

ARM YOURSELF

I PETER 4:1-6

BACKGROUND: From our previous lesson, we saw that Jesus not only saves, but He also baptizes us (a “dry” baptism) with the Holy Spirit who gives us a guilt-free conscience. Here we understand that the Spirit-filled life can be painful.

TO BE LIKE CHRIST, and when you suffer, to have the same mindset as Jesus, who desired to do the will of the Father. In our suffering, which is usually unexpected, we must set our mind beforehand to do the will of the Father and be done with sin. (**I Peter 4:1-2, fn 4:1-2, I Peter 3:13-15, fn 3:15[1st], Romans 8:28, fn 8:28, John 10:28-29, fn 10:28-29, I Peter 4:16, fn 4:16**) *How could you overcome the pain of unjust suffering?*

TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT. In your life of going your own way before Christ, you may have experienced a “happiness” that was temporary at best. Now, filled by faith with the Holy Spirit, there is joy which was unequalled in your past life. So don’t look back and play the game of “what if?”. Instead enjoy your new life in Christ. (**I Peter 4:3-4, fn 4:3-4, Ephesians 5:18, fn 5:18, Ephesians 3:14-19, fn 3:19, Galatians 5:16-17, fn 5:17, Romans 8:5-6, fn 8:5-6**) *How could you be filled daily with the Holy Spirit, and why wouldn’t you want that to happen?*

TO REACH FOR YOUR GOAL. This life is preparation for your next life. Your goal is seeing Jesus and hearing Him say when you meet Him face to face, “Well done, good and faithful servant!” **I Peter 4:5-6, fn 4:5-6, Hebrews 9:27, fn 9:27, II Corinthians 5:7-10, fn 5:9-10, Matthew 16:24-27, fn 16:27, Matthew 25:14-30, fn 25:29-30**) *How could you arm yourself for Judgement Day?*

Are you taking time to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit with the Living Word teaching you and giving you His joy, His love, and His peace?

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