

KEEPING ON IN DIFFICULT TIMES

I. SUFFERING IN RELATION TO GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION (1 Peter 1:1-12)

A. The INTRODUCTION To The Letter (1:1-2)

B. The INSTRUCTIVE ENCOURAGEMENT To HEED Regarding Suffering in Relation to Salvation (1:2-12)

- When suffering & facing difficult trials, God wants to encourage you to...
 1. **Remember** what the triune God has _____ for you in saving you from sin & spiritual ruin (1:2a)
 2. **Realize** that God's _____ is sufficient for you & that God's _____ is available to you in time (1:2b)
 3. **Repeatedly** _____ God for what He has already accomplished in His " _____ " of you. (1:3)
 4. **Recognize & Embrace** a _____ about suffering & trials in this life (1:6-7)
 5. _____ **greatly** in the Lord, sustained by...
 - a. a _____ for Jesus Christ (1:8a)
- What *kind of love* sustained these believers in their difficult trials ? (1:8)
- Where does this love come from?
- Why did they love the Lord?
- How does this love tie into endurance in the Christian life & future reward?

Luke 7:36-50—what can we learn here ? & Who loved more?

b. by _____ in Jesus Christ (1:8b)

- What else helped sustain these believers in difficult times?
- What was this in contrast to? (1:8b)
- What did their choice of “believing or walking by faith” result in?
- How is this described?
- What end does Peter have in view here? (1:9)
- What does this mean to you?