First Peter 4:10-19

- 4:1 Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,
- 4:2 so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.
- 4:3 For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry.
- 4:4 With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you;
- 4:5 but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.
- 4:6 For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.
- 4:7 The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.
- 4:8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.
- 4:9 Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.
- 4:10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

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1538 [e]
              2531 [e]
                                     5486 [e]
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                        2983 [e]
                                                   1519 [e] 1438 [e]
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                                                                                    diakonountes
   hekastos
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   each
                        has received a gift
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3623 [e]
             4164 [e]
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                                        2316 [e]
             poikilēs
oikonomoi
                             charitos
                                        Theou
οἰκονόμοι ποικίλης
                             χάριτος Θεοῦ :
stewards
             of [the] manifold grace
                                        of God
N-NMP
             Adj-GFS
                             N-GFS
                                        N-GMS
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- 1. The mention of love and of being hospitable (to traveling teachers) leads to the point that everyone has gifts (1 Cor. 12:7)
- Literally 4:10 says,
 "ministering as good stewards manifold grace of God" (diakononutes ius kaloi oikouomoi poikiles charitos theou)
- 3. "various forms" is "*poikilous*" ($\pi o \iota \kappa \iota \lambda o \upsilon \sigma$) is used to describe the skin of a leopard, different colored veins in marble.
 - a. Poikilous translates as "changeful", "diversified."
 - b. This word helps explain why there is no exact list of the spiritual gifts that is given with numbers and descriptions.
- 4. The gifts were given by God to his people (apparently at conversion).
 - a. These are not natural talents, but spiritual endowments because it is called "grace" here and in Romans 12:6 and 1 Corl 12:4

- b. These gifts need to be developed.
- c. These gifts need to be used for service
- d. These gifts are not for self-promotion or self-profiting.
- e. Believers do control the gifts (1 Cor. 14:32 and 14:30, etc.)
- f. Believers do develop the gifts
- g. Believers can ask for gifts (1 Cor. 12:31; 14:1, 13)
- h. Believers are called "stewards" which is the household manager who was often a slave.
- 5. The lists of the spiritual gifts are never total, comprehensive or ordered in similar fashion:
 - a. 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 "For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues."
 - b. 1 Corinthians 12:28-30 "And God has appointed in the church first <u>apostles</u>, second <u>prophets</u>, third <u>teachers</u>, then <u>miracles</u>, then gifts of <u>healing</u>, helping, <u>administrating</u>, and various kinds of tongues."
 - c. Romans 12:6-8 "Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if <u>prophecy</u>, in proportion to our faith; if <u>service</u>, in our serving; the one who <u>teaches</u>, in his teaching; the one who <u>exhorts</u>, in his exhortation; the one who <u>contributes</u>, in generosity; the one who <u>leads</u>, with zeal; the one who does <u>acts of mercy</u>, with cheerfulness."
 - d. 1 Peter 4 hospitality, speaking, serving
 - e. Ephesians 4:11-12 "he gave the <u>apostles</u>, the <u>prophets</u>, the <u>evangelists</u>, the <u>shepherds</u> and <u>teachers</u>, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."

1. Divine Origin of the Gifts

- a. The gifts are not natural talents
- b. The gifts are from God as the Spirit, the Son and the Father work together through the believer.

2. Diversity of Gifts

- a. There are different gifts which means the Spirit gives a variety of gifts to the people
- b. There are different services which means Jesus has a variety of places and ways he wants to use the selection of gifts that the Spirit has empowered.
- c. There are different workings which means God the Father produces a wide variety of results from the Spirit's gifts and the Lord's use of those gifts.

3. Purpose of Gifts

- a. For the common good
- b. 1 Cor. 14:3, to strengthen, encourage, comfort:
 - "for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation."
- c. 1 Cor. 14:12, to build up the church:
- "since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church."
- d. Eph. 4:12, "to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."

4. Grace of the Gift

- a. Gifts are not earned by people
- b. Gifts are not deserved
- c. Gifts are distributed by the Spirit as He determines
- d. 1 Cor12:11All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one
- e. Romans 12:3 "For by the grace given me I say to every one of you. . ."
 - 12:6, "we all have different gifts, according to the grace given us. . .

- f. 1 Peter 4:10, "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."
- g. 2 Corinthians 9:8, "God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having al that you need, you will abound in every good work."

5. Distribution of the Gifts

- a. Given to every one
- b. Each person has a place in the body for each person is a part of the body
- c. 1 Corinthians 12:12

6. Time of Receiving Gift

a. At the point of the new birth.

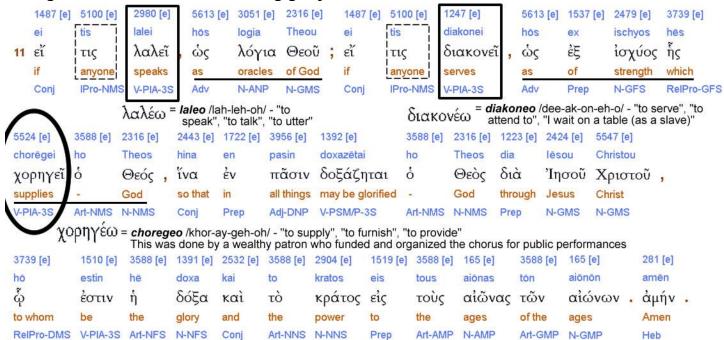
7. Development of the Gift

- a. 1 Tim.4:14,15, "Do not neglect your gift, . . . "
- b. 2 Tim. 1:6, "I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God. . ."
- c. Each person has a gift, but that gift must be developed.

8. Control of the Gift

- a. 1 Cor.14:32, "The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets."
- b. Each person is placed in control of their gift.
- c. This is not demon possession where a person losses control of their will.

4:11 – whoever <u>speaks</u>, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever <u>serves</u>, as one who serves by the strength that God <u>supplies</u>—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.



Two examples (which can be seen in Acts 6:2, and again in Romans 12:7):

- 1. $\lambda\alpha\lambda\epsilon\iota$ **laleo** /lah-leh-oh/ "to speak", "to utter"
 - a. "speaks" refers to all speaking gifts, not causal conversation.
- 2. λογιον *logion* /log-ee-on/ = "oracle, saying, utterance" meaning "divine responses"
- 3. $\delta \iota \alpha \kappa o \nu \epsilon \omega$ diakoneo /dee-ak-on-eh-o/ "to serve", "to attend to', "I wait on a table (as a slave)"
 - a. Waiting on Tables "serves" is to be done in the supernatural strength of God, not in human effort.

- 4. χορηγει *choregeo* /khor-ay-geh-oh "to supply", "to furnish", "to provide"; here → "supplies"
 - a. The word "supplies" is used here and in 2 Cor. 9:10 and refers to paying the expense of training a chorus for the theater or to accept the cost for something. Wealthy citizens would pay for the play or a road or a feast, etc.
 - i. Text from BIBLE HUB → https://biblehub.com/greek/5524.htm
 "In ancient Greek culture, the term "chorégeó" was associated with the role of a "chorégos," a wealthy patron who funded and organized the chorus for public performances, such as plays and festivals. This role was crucial in the cultural life of Greek cities, as it ensured the success of theatrical productions. The term thus carries connotations of generosity, responsibility, and the provision of resources for communal benefit.
 - b. God is going to pay the expense material, physically and emotional. This is the difference between burnout and complaining or fruitful continuation in joy
- 5. The **glory** and **praise** are to go to God as we serve in the strength he provides and speak the words he gives.
- 6. This verse closes with a doxology which helps strengthen the argument that Peter is ending this section, and beginning a new point in verse 4:12

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 begins this closing section with the word *agapetoi*, or "beloved" which is translated as "dear friends."
- 2. "Painful trial" is literally "fiery trial."
 - a. Some teach that this was Nero's persecution that included the burning of Christians, but this is unlikely because:
 - i. This letter is from the early 60's AD (it appears), and Nero's persecution began in Rome around 64 AD and led to Peter's death in 67/68 AD and Paul's execution in the fall of 67 AD or spring of 68 AD.
 - ii. The readers are in provinces north of Antioch in eastern Asia. Nero's persecutions focused mainly on the city of Rome
 - iii. These believers are not suffering "death" but are struggling with "suffering" in life.
- 3. Suffering as a Christian is not a strange thing.
 - a. In fact, it is normal.
 - b. Daniel is told of God's method of purifying his people in Daniel 11:33-35.
 - c. Jesus' suffering as our example is used at the beginning of 1 Peter 4:1.
 - d. Jesus' suffering is given as our example also in:

- i. Colossians 1:24 -
 - "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,"
- ii. Hebrews 12:4 -
 - "In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood."
- iii. Philippians 2:5-11 -
 - "And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him."

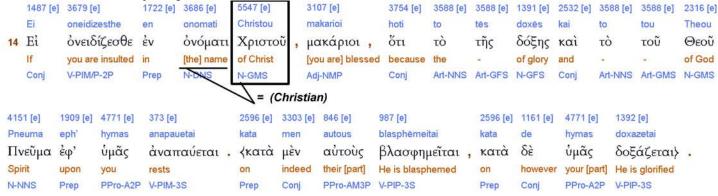
4:13 – But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

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1. Rejoice in suffering because of Luke 6:22-23 -

"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets."

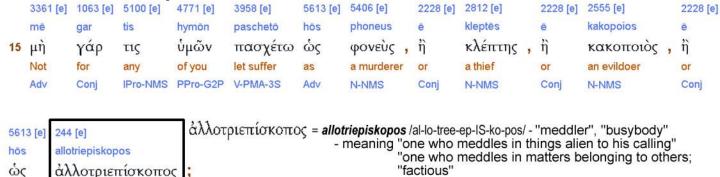
4:14 – If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.



- 1. Hebrew Messiah means "anointed one". Greek *christos* means "anointed".
- 2. The addition of "-ian" at the end of a word or name was used to identify those who followed the person or belonged to the group. It was natural that followers of *christos* would be called "Christians"
 - a. (Followers of Herod or supporters of the Herodian political platform were called Herodians.

- b. Christians first identified by that name 17-20 years earlier in Antioch in 43 AD in Acts 11:26:
 - "For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called **Christians**."
- 3. Interesting that the followers of the "anointed one" are told that they have also been anointed when Peter calls them Christians and says "the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you."

4:15 - But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.



This word comes from: allotrios meaning "belonging to another"

episkopos meaning "overseer", "bishop"

- 1. Criminals (taking people's life, property and rights as in murder, thief, meddler):
 - a. Murderer

a troublesome meddler

as

Adv

- b. Thief
- c. Criminal
- d. Meddler allotriepiskopos (αλλοτριεπισκοποσ) made up of two words:
 - i. *allotri* = "belonging to another"
 - ii. *Episkopos* = overseer
 - iii. This means "a self-appointed overseer in other men's matters."

4:16 – Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.

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16	εί	δὲ	ώς	Χριστιανός,	μὴ	αἰσχυνέσθω ;	δοξαζέτω	δὲ	τὸν	Θεὸν	έν	τῷ
	if	however	as	a Christian	not	let him be ashamed	let him glorify	however	-	God	in	the
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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?

	3754 [e]	3588 [e] 2540 [e]	3588 [e]	756 [e]	3588 [e]	2917 [e]	575 [e]	3588 [e]	3624 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]		1487 [e]	1161 [e]	
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17	ὅτι	ò	καιρὸς	τοῦ	ἄρξασθαι	τò	κρίμα	ἀπὸ	τοῦ	οἴκου	τοῦ	Θεοῦ	;	εί	δè	
	For [it is]	the	time [for]	-	to have begun	the	judgment	from	the	house	-	of God		if	now	
	Conj	Art-NMS	S N-NMS	Art-GNS	V-ANM	Art-ANS	N-ANS	Prep	Art-GMS	N-GMS	Art-GMS	N-GMS		Conj	Conj	
441:	2 [e] 5	i75 [e] 1	1473 [e] 5	5101 [e]	3588 [e] 505	i6 [e] 35	88 [e] 544	4 [e]	35	588 [e] 35	588 [e] 2	316 [e] 2	098	[e]		
prōt	on a	iph' h	nēmān ti	i	to telo	s tõi	n ap	eithountön	ı tō	to	u T	heou e	uand	aeliā		

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- 1. The reason for the suffering is that of God's judgment.
- 2. Peter says because "it is time to begin the judgment."
- 3. In the OT judgment began in the house of the Lord:
 - a. Ezek. 9:5-6
 - b. Jeremiah 25:29
 - c. Malachi 3:1-6
- 4. Daniel is told of God's method of purifying his people in Daniel 11:33-35.
- 5. In 2 Baruch 13 judgment began with the people of God: "For the Lord first judges Israel for the wrong she has committed and then he shall do the same for all the nations." (Test. Benjamin 100:8-9 in the Dead Sea Scrolls
- 6. 1 Corinthians 11:31-32 The Lord's Supper is a time to judge ourselves in the church or God will judge us.

4:18 - **And**

"If the righteous is scarcely saved,

what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

			3588 [e]	1342 [e]	3433 [e]	4982 [e]	3588 [e]	1161 [e]	765 [e]	2532 [e]	268 [e]	4226 [e]	5316 [e]	
	kai	Ei	ho	dikaios	molis	sōzetai	ho	de	asebēs	kai	hamartōlos	pou	phaneitai	
18	καὶ ,	Εί	ó	δίκαιος	μόλις	σώζεται ,	ò	(δὲ)	ἀσεβὴς	καὶ	άμαρτωλὸς	ποῦ	φανεῖται	?
	And	lf	the	righteous [one]	with difficulty	is saved	the	also	ungodly	and	sinner	where	will appear	
	Conj	Conj	Art-NMS	Adj-NMS	Adv	V-PIM/P-3S	Art-NMS	Conj	Adj-NMS	Conj	Adj-NMS	Adv	V-FIM-3S	

- 1. Peter uses Proverbs 11:31 as a text verse where it says in the **LXX**:
 - "If the righteous is scarcely delivered, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?" and the **Hebrew** text reads:
 - "If the righteous is requited on earth, how much more the wicked and the sinner!"
- 2. This suffering Peter is referring to is part of the testing of faith he mentioned in 1:6; 4:12; 5:8-9
- 3. The world may be used by God to:
 - a. test and judge the believer, but
 - b. in the end the world will be judge and condemned by the Lord
- 4. These tests will separate the believer from those who merely follow the crowd to church.
- 5. When the believer fails these tests:
 - a. It will challenge the believer to reevaluate their faith and commitment
 - b. This happened to Peter himself when he denied Christ.

4:19 – Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

	5620 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]	3958 [e]	2596 [e]	3588 [e]	2307 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	4103 [e]	2939 [e]
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19	$\Im \tau \sigma \Omega'$	καὶ ,	οί	πάσχοντες	κατὰ	τò	θέλημα	τοῦ	Θεοῦ ,	πιστῷ	Κτίστη
	Therefore	also	those	suffering	according to	the	will	-	of God	to [the] faithful	Creator
	Conj	Conj	Art-NMP	V-PPA-NMP	Prep	Art-ANS	N-ANS	Art-GMS	N-GMS	Adj-DMS	N-DMS

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- 1. Peter now identifies our response and coaches us towards the right attitude.
- 2. This section concludes with Peter's advice concerning suffering by saying: "So then,..." and giving us two steps to follow:

a. "entrust" yourself to God

- i. "entrust" is $\pi\alpha\rho\alpha\tau\iota\tau\eta\eta\mu\iota$ and means "to hand over something of value to the care of another."
- ii. "themselves" is the word ψυχας (psychas) which is often translated "soul". But, Peter is not talking merely about the soul, but could be indicating that the world will attack your body, but God will care for the growth and preservation of your soul.
- iii. This point of advice seems to come from Jesus on the cross (Luke 23:46) quoting Psalm 31:5 (Also, used by Stephen in Acts 14:23)
- iv. "Creator" is only used here in the NT for God (though the concept is not absent in the NT.) The Creator began with a plan and gave us a place in the plan, so entrust yourself to the Creator and keep going.

b. Continue to "do good"

- Doing good is basically doing what is acceptable in God's eyes, but in most cases it is also acceptable in the eyes of men: obeying masters, following laws of the land, submitting to family and social order,
- ii. This "good" has been identified in -
 - 1. 2:14-15
 - 2. 2:20
 - 3. 3:6
 - 4. 3:17
- iii. "Doing good" also means "avoid doing evil" as in "avoid retaliation".
 - 1. Avoid returning evil for evil
 - 2. First Peter 3:9 has already said this: "Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing."
 - 3. We are to do good and face the persecution while winning people to the Lord and proclaiming the Truth.