

## **Perspectives on Persecution**

<u>I Peter 4:12-19</u> 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. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. <sup>15</sup>But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup>Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. <sup>17</sup>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? <sup>18</sup>And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" <sup>19</sup>Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

## **Six Realities That Will Cause You** to Stand Firm Through Persecution

1. It is God's **PLAN** for you (v12 & 18)

2. It is a privilege to IDENTIFY WITH CHRIST (v13a)

3. It culminates in **YOUR JOY** (v13b)

4. The **SPIRIT** is with you (v14)

5. It gives total **GLORY TO GOD** (v16)

6. God will CARE FOR YOUR SOUL (v19)

## **BIBLE READING PLAN**

☐ Sun.: Psa. 66 ☐ Mon.: Psa. 67 ☐ Tues.: Psa. 68

☐ Wed.: Psa. 69 ☐ Thurs.: Psa. 70

☐ Fri.: Psa. 71 ☐ Sat.: Psa. 72 ☐ Sun.: Psa. 73