

Repercussions of Godliness

1 Peter 4:1-6

What to expect as a believer:

- Be ready to suffer for Christ. (v. 1)
 - If you are suffering for Christ, you have ceased from a sinful lifestyle. (James 4:4)
- Your desire will be to do the will of God. (vv. 2-3, Phil. 2:12-13) Why?
 - You have come to realize that the things of this world never satisfy.
 - You're tired of sinful activity.
- Your friends and family might not like the "new you". (v. 4, Ps. 55:12-14, John 6:66, Ps. 27:10)
- You will be slandered because of your new life in Christ. (v. 5, Matt. 5:11, Mark 3:20-22) Remember however, everyone will eventually be judged by God. Slandered now, rewarded later.
Slander – "the act of speaking falsehoods or making malicious statements about someone, thereby damaging their reputation." (Eph. 4:31, Col. 3:8, 1 Pet. 2:1)
- When you die physically on earth, you will then live eternally in Heaven. (v. 6, John 3:16, Rom. 6:23)

Points to Ponder:

- Be encouraged, if you suffer for Christ now, you will rejoice with Him later!
- Be determined, if you do the will of the Lord now, you will rest in His favor later!
- Be understanding, if you are abandoned by loved ones now, you will be received by Christ later!
- Be patient, if you are slandered for Christ now, you will be rewarded by him later!
- Be hopeful, if you live for Christ while on earth, you will reside with Him in Heaven!