

## How Suffering Proclaims Victory to the Demons

1 Peter 3:18-22

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*1 Peter 3:13-17* - if we are zealous for what is good, then we most likely won't suffer. But sometimes we will. But if we do, it's ok because suffering is a pathway to blessing.

*1 Peter 3:18-22* - Peter uses Jesus as an example to prove this point.

**3:18** - Jesus suffered also. But his suffering was even more unfair than any of our suffering. It was the righteous for the unrighteous.

**3:19-20** - Jesus' suffering was a pathway to blessing and a pathway to His victory over the evil spiritual forces.

### Trying to Make Sense of 3:19-20

*Put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went...*

- He died to the physical realm but was then made alive in the spiritual realm

*He went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison...*

- This is not speaking of preaching the Gospel. The greek word *euangelizo* (evangelize) is always used for that. The word for "make a proclamation" is used here.
- Jesus went to these incarcerated spirits and made a proclamation of victory over them

*So who were these spirits who are incarcerated and did not obey in Noah's days?*

- They are not souls of people who have died. They are fallen angels

*But still...who are these spirits or fallen angels?*

To understand this, we must look at Satan's ongoing conflict with the Messiah

- Fall of the angels
- Adam and Eve
- Satan tries to prevent the Messiah from being born
  - Genocide of the Jews - Slavery in Egypt, all boy babies killed in Egypt, Haman's ruling in Esther, Babylon, Assyria, Amalek, Philistia
  - Destruction of the Messianic lineage
  - Attempt to kill Jewish baby boys after Jesus was born

- He tempts Christ to try and thwart God's plan
- Satan incited Jewish leaders to kill Jesus

*What does Noah have to do all of this...and what of Satan's ongoing conflict?*

**Genesis 6:1-4** - This is a further attempt to prevent the Messiah from ever being born.

- Fallen angels (sons of God) married women (daughter of man)
  - This was possible by means of demon possession
- Through this possession of the man and marriage to the women, somehow this corrupted the offspring to the point of them being irredeemable and God destroying creation through the flood.
- God's punishment for these demons was that they would be incarcerated in the bottomless pit.
  - Revelation, 2 Peter 2:4-7, Jude 6

*1 Peter 3:22* - As a result of Jesus' victory, he now has full authority over the spiritual realm.