



## Sermon Notes

### 1Peter 4:12-19 "Fiery Trials3"

Life is a fiery furnace that can either burn you to a crisp or refine you as pure gold. Two people can go through similar circumstances with totally opposite responses. The same sun that hardens the clay melts the wax. It's not the Sun but it's the internal chemical structure of each substance. What are you made of? Daniel3:16-18

### What are Fiery Trials?

#### 1) They are events in our lives that purify our faith.

V12 "Fiery Trial" = Gr. *Pyrosis* a refiner's fire, a fire that purifies, a fire into which you put the metal and it comes out pure. 1Pet1:6-7; Rom8:28-29

#### 2) They purify our faith by revealing...

V12 "To test you" = Gr. prove, to show what you really are. James1:2-4; Rom5:1-5

- ✓ What I'm really trusting in
- ✓ The inadequacy of what I'm trusting in
- ✓ The importance of putting my trust in God

### How Should I Respond?

#### 1) Respond from your identity. V12 "Beloved" (8xs 1&2Peter) 1Jn3:1

#### 2) Don't be surprised. V12 "Do not be surprised..." John 16:33; Ps34:19

#### 3) Rejoice in God's presence. vv13-14 "But rejoice...because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you." Ps16:2, 4, 8, 11

#### 4) Obey God's Word. V15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Beware of "escape sins". Gal6:7-9

#### 5) Entrust yourself to God. V19 "entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good." Ps9:9-10; 2Tim1:12; 1Pet2:2-3; Rom8:16

**Because Jesus went through your greatest fiery furnace for you (The Cross), He'll certainly be in your smaller furnaces with you!** Rom8:31-38; Daniel3:16-18, 25

## Growing Notes

1) How is life a fiery furnace that can either burn you to a crisp or refine you as pure gold? Why is it that you can have two people going through identical circumstances with totally opposite responses? What kind of fiery trials have you been through or are currently going through?

2) Read 1Peter 4:12-19. What stands out to you from this text? "Fiery trials" are events in our lives that purify our faith. Why do you think we need our faith purified (1Pet1:6-7)? Fiery trials purify our faith by revealing to us what three things (see sermon notes & compare with James1:2-4; Rom5:1-5)? How does inordinate anxiety and/or anger and/or sadness reveal a failing false god?

3) What does it say when we shake our fist at the real God because He won't give us our counterfeit god(s)? What does it mean to respond to fiery trials from your identity (V12 "Beloved"; 1Jn3:1)? Why would we be surprised by fiery trials and how is self-pity and bitterness evidence (v12; John 16:33; Ps34:19)? How does rejoicing in the presence of God help us to release our grip on counterfeit gods (vv13-14; Ps16:2, 4, 8, 11)?

4) In responding to fiery trials why is it important to obey God's Word and be aware of "escape sins" (v15; Gal6:7-9)? What does it mean to entrust yourself to God (v19)? Why can you trust God with your life (Ps9:9-10; 2Tim1:12)? What roles do the Word & Spirit of God play in our knowing God and therefore growing in our trust of Him (1Pet2:2-3; Rom8:16)? Because Jesus went through your greatest fiery furnace for you (The Cross), He'll certainly be in your smaller furnaces with you (Rom8:31-38; Daniel3:16-18, 25)! Explain. Pray for those going through fiery trials.