

10 PURPOSES GOD ALLOWS US TO SUFFER FOR OUR FAITH

From Peter's First Epistle

1. **To prove our faith genuine and to purify it** (1 Peter 1:7a):
"These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire . . ."
2. **To bring us glory and honor at Christ's return** (1 Peter 1:7b):
" . . . may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."
3. **To lead unbelievers to Christ** (1 Peter 2:12):
"Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God."
4. **To silence the ignorant** (1 Peter 2:15):
"For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people."
5. **To please God** (1 Peter 2:20):
"But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God."
6. **To follow Christ's example** (1 Peter 2:21):
"To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps."
7. **To win your unbelieving husbands (or wives) to Christ** (1 Peter 3:1-2):
"Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives."
8. **To receive God's blessing** (1 Peter 3:14):
"But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened."
9. **To shame unbelievers who slander us** (1 Peter 3:16):
"keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander."
10. **To enable us to live a more obedient life** (1 Peter 4:1-2):
"Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God."