

1 Peter 4:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

Analysis

Peter distinguishes righteous from foolish suffering. Only suffering for righteousness merits blessing. Don't claim persecution when experiencing deserved consequences.

Historical Context

Peter prevented romanticizing all suffering. Early church maintained this distinction - martyrs honored only if killed for faith.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How can you evaluate whether suffering stems from righteousness or sin?
2. Why does Peter include meddling alongside serious crimes?

Interlinear Text

μη	γάρ	τις	ὑμῶν	πασχέτω	ὥς	φονεὺς	ἢ	κλέπτης
none	But	^{G5100}	of you	let	as	a murderer	or	as a thief
G3361	G1063		G5216	G3958	G5613	G5406	G2228	G2812
ἢ	κακοποιὸς	ἢ	ὥς	ἄλλοτριεπίσκοπος·				
or	as an evildoer	or	as	a busybody in other men's matters				
G2228	G2555	G2228	G5613	G244				

Additional Cross-References

1 Thessalonians 4:11 (Parallel theme): And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;

2 Thessalonians 3:11 (Parallel theme): For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

1 Timothy 5:13 (Parallel theme): And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.

1 Peter 3:17 (Evil): For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.

2 Timothy 2:9 (Evil): Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.

Matthew 5:11 (Evil): Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.