

1 Peter 4:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

Analysis

Peter announces judgment's commencement at God's house. Current persecution is God's purifying judgment. If believers experience discipline, final judgment on unbelievers will be severe.

Historical Context

Peter reframes persecution as divine discipline. God disciplines whom He loves. This motivates endurance and evangelism.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does understanding persecution as discipline change your response?

2. What does this imply about final judgment on gospel rejecters?

Interlinear Text

ὅτι	ό	καιρὸς	τοῦ	ἀρξασθαι	τὸ	κρίμα	ἀφ'		
For	G3588	the time	G3588	must begin	G3588	is come that judgment	at		
G3754		G2540		G756		G2917	G575		
τοῦ	οἴκου	τοῦ	θεοῦ	εἰ	δὲ	πρῶτον	ἀφ'	ἡμῶν	τί
G3588	the house	G3588	of God	if	and	it first	at	us	what
	G3624		G2316	G1487	G1161	G4412	G575	G2257	G5101
τὸ	τέλος	τῶν	ἀπειθούντων		τῷ	τοῦ	θεοῦ		
G3588	shall the end	G3588	be of them that obey not	G544	G3588	G3588	of God		
	G5056						G2316		
εὐαγγελίω									
the gospel									
G2098									

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 25:29 (Parallel theme): For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city which is called by my name, and should ye be utterly unpunished? Ye shall not be unpunished: for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the LORD of hosts.

2 Thessalonians 1:8 (References God): In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Romans 2:9 (Parallel theme): Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;

1 Peter 2:8 (Parallel theme): And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Ezekiel 9:6 (Parallel theme): Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and

begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.

Luke 23:31 (Parallel theme): For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?

Malachi 3:5 (Judgment): And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah 10:12 (Parallel theme): Wherefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks.

Amos 3:2 (Parallel theme): You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

Hebrews 2:2 (Parallel theme): For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward;