

# THE CHRISTIAN IN A HOSTILE WORLD



## Preparing the Heart for Persecution

*When God's people are suffering persecution they need to carefully examine their attitudes*

1 Peter 5:6-14

<b>Introduction</b>	It is hard to read the final section of 1 Peter without reminiscing about Peter's own failures in the face of persecution. But now he is a wiser and stronger man, and knows exactly what disciples need to do to prepare their hearts to face suffering.
<b>Bible Study</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What attitude does Peter urge Christians to have in verse 6? What will this cause them to do? (v. 7)</li><li>2. What attitude will help us to be aware of the devil's attacks? (v. 8) What does Satan seek to do? What should be our response to him?</li><li>3. What should one remember when suffering for Christ's sake? (v. 9)</li><li>4. What blessings did Peter say would come from suffering for what is right? (v. 10)</li><li>5. What was Peter's purpose for writing this book? From where did he write it? What role did Silvanus play in this epistle?</li></ol>
<b>Discerning Principles</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>6. What mistakes had Peter made that prepared the way for his denial of the Lord?</li><li>7. Where does persecution fit in the larger picture of the conflict between God and Satan?</li><li>8. How can the exhortations and promises of this section keep us from being overcome by persecution?</li></ol>
<b>Applying the Message</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>9. Is your heart adequately prepared for the suffering you will eventually face in your life?</li></ol>