



# Think It Not Strange

***1 Peter 4 : 1-19***

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27 & 28 October 2018***

## 1 Peter 4:1-19

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, **since Christ suffered** for us in the flesh, **arm yourselves also with the same mind**, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,  
<sup>2</sup> that he **no longer should live** the **rest of his time** in the flesh **for the lusts of men, but for the will of God**. <sup>3</sup> For we have spent enough of our **past lifetime** in **doing the will of the Gentiles** - when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.

<sup>4</sup> In regard to these, **they think it strange that you do not run with them** in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you. <sup>5</sup> They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. <sup>6</sup> For this reason the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit. <sup>7</sup> But **the end of all things is at hand**; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.



<sup>8</sup> And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.”

<sup>9</sup> Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.

<sup>10</sup> As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. <sup>11</sup> If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, **that in all things God may be glorified** through Jesus Christ,

to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>12</sup> **Beloved, do not think it strange** concerning **the fiery trial** which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; <sup>13</sup> but **rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings**, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. <sup>14</sup> If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

**On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.** <sup>15</sup> But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. <sup>16</sup> Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but **let him glorify God in this matter.** <sup>17</sup> For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?

<sup>18</sup> Now “If the righteous one is scarcely saved,  
Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?”

<sup>19</sup> Therefore let those who suffer according to  
the will of God **commit their souls to Him in  
doing good, as to a faithful Creator.**

1 Peter 4 : 1-19 (NKJV)



# Introduction

## a) **The story of Maria :** suffering persecution





# Introduction

## a) **The story of Maria: suffering persecution**

- father tried to kill the whole family with a parang when she was 5 years old
- hospitalized for almost 5 months
- mother could not work

## a) **The story of Maria: suffering persecution**

- driven out of the uncle's house
- they moved to another relative's house  
but the story repeated
- built another house at Ediri
- stay together but they had no peace

- receive Jesus into my life in 2013, I felt peace and joy like never before
- offered to pray for the family
- 2 brothers were against my Christian faith and they refused to have anything to do with the cell meeting at the house

- my younger sister Nanda and I went to visit our neighbours and relatives to share our testimony and invited them to join our cell group
- neighbours instigated my brothers to stop the cell meeting as they were all Catholics



## a) The story of Maria: suffering persecution



**Maria sharing  
her testimony**



## a) **The story of Maria: suffering persecution**

- brothers becoming very hostile to the cell meeting
- My brother was very angry and he asked if I wanted to die.
- He did come right up to me with a parang with the intention to slash me.

## a) The story of Maria: suffering persecution





## b) Christians suffering fiery trial: vicious victimization

\* **1 Peter 4:12** (NKJV)

Beloved, do not think it strange **concerning the fiery trial which is to try you**, as though some strange thing happened to you



## **b) Christians suffering fiery trial: vicious victimization**

- translated ordeals, painful things, troubles and persecutions

# Road Map

- 1) Vicious victimization
- 2) Mentality of a transformed person

# 1) **Vicious victimization** (Chapter 4:4, 12, 14).

<sup>4</sup> In regard to these, **they think it strange** that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, **speaking evil of you**.

1 Peter 4:4

# 1) **Vicious victimization** (Chapter 4:4, 12, 14).

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, **do not think it strange** concerning **the fiery trial** which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you.

**1 Peter 4:12**



# 1) **Vicious victimization** (Chapter 4:4, 12, 14).

<sup>14</sup> If you are **reproached for the name of Christ**,  
blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God  
rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed,  
but on your part He is glorified.

**1 Peter 4:14**

# 1) **Vicious victimization** (Chapter 4:4, 12, 14).

- being discriminated against for being Chinese
- increasing hostility against Jews, Chinese and Africans in Russia
- In East Timor the Protestant Christian minority is discriminated against by the Catholics majority.

# 1) **Vicious victimization** (Chapter 4:4, 12, 14).

- cell group at Morai
- 40-50 adults and children
- Padre stepped in and threatened the cell
- cell was decimated

# 1) **Vicious victimization** (Chapter 4:4, 12, 14).

1 Peter 4:14 (NKJV)

“If you are **reproached for the name of Christ**,  
blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God  
rests upon you.”



- **Reproached:**

- ◆ to be insulted or reviled
- ◆ be censured and suffer abuse
- ◆ ridiculed
- ◆ mocked and railed

- usually accompanied by discrimination of some kind
- excluded in an exclusive society

**Q:** Do you suffer from discrimination because of your faith?

**Q:** Do you suffer exclusion because you do not agree with your classmates about the LGBT issues?

- Some of us suffer from years of exclusion by relatives in the war of clans.

# 1) **Vicious victimization** (Chapter 4:4, 12, 14).

Word of Jesus:

**Blessed are you when men hate you**, and when they **exclude you**, and revile you, and **cast out your name as evil**, for the Son of Man's sake.

**Luke 6:22 (NKJV)**

- apostles shamed in public for the name of Christ and they went away rejoicing

- \* **Acts 5:40-41** (NKJV) And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.



# 1) **Vicious victimization** (Chapter 4:4, 12, 14).

<sup>41</sup> So they departed from the presence of the council, **rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.**

**Acts 5:40-41 (NKJV)**

## 2) **Mentality of a transformed person** (Chapter 4:1-3)

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, **since Christ suffered** for us in the flesh, **arm yourselves also with the same mind**, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, <sup>2</sup> that he **no longer should live** the **rest of his time** in the flesh **for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.**

## 2) **Mentality of a transformed person** (Chapter 4:1-3)

- “Arm yourselves with the same mind”
- World wants us to think like them

## ❖ **Worldly mind-set**

- world thinks enjoyment
- How they think leads to how they act
- **“doing the will of the Gentiles”**
- they would run in flood of dissipation



<sup>3</sup> For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in **doing the will of the Gentiles** - when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. <sup>4</sup> In regard to these, **they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation,** speaking evil of you.

**1 Peter 4:3-4 (NKJV)**

2) ***Mentality of a transformed person***  
***(Chapter 4 : 1-3)***

- **Flood of dissipation means  
dissolute excess**

## *1 Peter 4 : 3-5 (AMP)*

*For the time already past is [more than] enough for doing what the [unsaved] Gentiles like to do - living [unrestrained as you have done] in a course of [shameless] sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties, and wanton idolatries.*

*<sup>4</sup> In [connection with] all this, they [the unbelievers] are resentful and surprised that you do not [think like them, value their values and] run [hand in hand] with them into the same excesses of dissipation and immoral freedom, and they criticize and abuse and ridicule you and make fun of your values.*

*1 Peter 4 : 3-5 (AMP)*



2) *Mentality of a transformed person*  
*(Chapter 4 : 1-3)*

\* *In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.*

*1 Peter 4:4 (NKJV)*

- world treasures freedom especially immoral freedom and they have cornered the whole definition of freedom :
  - ◆ freedom to engage shameless sensuality, lusts, drunkenness and drinking parties
  - ◆ inalienable human right

2) ***Mentality of a transformed person  
(Chapter 4 : 1-3)***

- \* ***Leviticus 18:22 (NLT)***  
***“Do not practice homosexuality,  
having sex with another man as  
with a woman. It is a detestable  
sin.”***

\*

*Leviticus 20:13 (NLT)*

*“If a man practices homosexuality, having sex with another man as with a woman, both men have committed a detestable act. They must both be put to death, for they are guilty of a capital offense.”*



## *Romans 1 : 26-27 (NLT)*

*That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other.*

*<sup>27</sup> And the **men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other.***

*Men did shameful things with other men,  
and as a result of this sin, they suffered  
within themselves the penalty they  
deserved.*

*Romans 1 : 26-27 (NLT)*

\*

*1 Corinthians 6:9 (NKJV)*

*Do you not know that **the**  
**unrighteous will not inherit the**  
**kingdom of God?** Do not be  
deceived. **Neither** fornicators, nor  
idolaters, nor adulterers, nor  
**homosexuals, nor sodomites.***

## ❖ **Christian mind-set : freedom in Christ**

- surprised that you do not [think like them, value their values and] run [hand in hand] with them into the same excesses of dissipation and immoral freedom . . . *1 Pet 4:4 (AMP)*



2) ***Mentality of a transformed person  
(Chapter 4 : 1-3)***

***Beloved, do not think it strange  
concerning the fiery trial which is to try  
you, as though some strange thing  
happened to you;***

***1 Peter 4:12 (NKJV)***

**\* *... and they criticize and abuse and  
ridicule you and make fun of your  
values. 1 Peter 4 : 3-5 (AMP)***

**- slave to Christ**

**- By divine exchange Jesus gives us  
true freedom.**

## *Romans 6 : 20-22 (NKJV)*

*For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup> What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup> But now having been set free **from sin, and having become slaves of God**, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.*

2) ***Mentality of a transformed person  
(Chapter 4 : 1-3)***

***1 Corinthians 7:22 (NKJV)***

***For he who is called in the Lord while a slave is **the Lord's freedman**. Likewise he who is called while free is **Christ's slave**.***



2) ***Mentality of a transformed person  
(Chapter 4 : 1-3)***

❖ **Christian mind-set on suffering**

- **Christians also have the mind set to suffer for Christ and would think nothing of suffering.**
- **Christians do enjoy life when the Lord grants them things to enjoy.**

## 2) *Mentality of a transformed person* *(Chapter 4 : 1-3)*

### ❖ **Christian mind-set on suffering**

- **But the default mode should be suffering.**

2) ***Mentality of a transformed person***  
***(Chapter 4 : 1-3)***

- ❖ **When Christians refuse to run with the world according to its mind-set**
  - **would turn against you and speak evil of you**

## *1 Peter 4 : 1-3*

*Therefore, **since Christ suffered** for us in the flesh, **arm yourselves also with the same mind**, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, <sup>2</sup> that he **no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.***



*<sup>3</sup> For we have spent enough of our  
**past lifetime in doing the will of the  
Gentiles** - when we walked in lewdness,  
lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking  
parties, and abominable idolatries.*

*1 Peter 4 : 1-3 (NKJV)*

*Philippians 2 : 5-11 (NKJV)*

*Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,<sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,<sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.*

*<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He **humiliated Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.** <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,*

***<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.***

***Philippians 2 : 5-11 (NKJV)***



## ***Philippians 3 : 12-16 (NKJV)***

***Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward***

*to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup> I  
press toward the goal for the prize  
of the upward call of God in Christ  
Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Therefore **let us, as many as  
are mature, have this mind**; and if in  
anything you think otherwise, God will  
reveal even this to you.*

*<sup>16</sup> Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, **let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.***

*Philippians 3 : 12-16 (NKJV)*

2) ***Mentality of a transformed person***  
***(Chapter 4 : 1-3)***

***Romans 12 : 1-2 (NKJV)***

***I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.***



*<sup>2</sup> And **do not be conformed to this world,**  
**but be transformed by the renewing of**  
**your mind,** that you may prove  
what is that good and acceptable and  
perfect will of God.*

*Romans 12 : 1-2 (NKJV)*

2) ***Mentality of a transformed person***  
***(Chapter 4 : 1-3)***

- **implication of suffering**
- **We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice.**
- **matter of choice**

## *1 Peter 4:14 (AMPC)*

*If you are censured and suffer abuse  
[because you bear] the name of Christ,  
blessed [are you - happy, fortunate, to be  
envied, with life-joy, and satisfaction in  
God's favour and salvation, regardless of  
your outward condition], because the*

*Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God, is resting upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.*

*1 Peter 4:14 (AMPC)*



# Conclusion

