

## **“Living on the Edge of Eternity” 1 Peter 4:1-9**

1. In 1 Peter 4:1, Peter refers back to Christ’s suffering that he just spoke of in 3:18 and exhorts believers to “arm” themselves with the same attitude and mindset of Christ. The Greek word translated “arm yourselves” is a word used only here in the New Testament and it referred to a soldier putting on armor. What should be our attitude when faced with suffering?

2. When we identify with Christ, it means that we are identifying and sharing in His suffering and death. Read Romans 6:6-7. Because of Christ’s death, what should we no longer be slaves to?

As believers, we are no longer to live our lives “in the flesh” and living for evil human desires or for “the lusts of men”. What are we now to live our lives for (according to 4:2)?

3. Peter encourages his readers in verse 6 by saying that those who had heard and believed the gospel of Jesus Christ face a different future than those who are facing judgment for a life of indulgency and idolatry.

As believers, how has the penalty for our sin already been paid?

4. According to verse 7, what should be our motivation as believers to live for and serve Christ?

So that we are able to pray, what does Peter say Christians are to be (v.7)?

5. “Above all”, what does Peter say that we are to do?

The word for “fervent” or “deeply” is the Greek word meaning “stretched” or “strained” and it describes the taut muscles of an athlete who strains to win a race.

What does it look like for a believer in Christ to love unselfishly for the sake of others and their welfare?

6. Peter says that we are to love sacrificially because “love covers a multitude of sins”. The word here for “covers” literally means “hides”. This is not speaking of a love that is blind. What kind of love is this speaking to?