

Eight Key Consequences That Can Result from Doing what is Wrong

1. Doing what is wrong will cause us to lose the peace of God. (Isaiah 57:20-21)
2. Doing what is wrong can cause us to receive more in consequences from our sin than the perceived benefit we thought we were gaining from the sin. (Galatians 6:7-8)
3. Doing what is wrong can cause us to constantly stumble into trouble without seeing the stumbling block. (Proverbs 4:19)
4. Doing what is wrong can cause us to have an insatiable desire for more of everything with a lack of contentment with what we have. (Proverbs 13:25)
5. Doing what is wrong can cause us to suffer physical pain. (Psalm 32:1-3)
6. Doing what is wrong can cause us to lose the ability to fight against our enemies as we are not filled by the power of God to do so. (Judges 16:17-21)
7. Doing what is wrong can lead to God not listening to our prayers. (Psalm 66:18)
8. Doing what is wrong can cause God to treat us as an enemy until we repent of the wrong. (James 4:4-6)

The Practice, Proclamation, and Prize of the Righteousness of Jesus Christ (v18-v22)

- A. It is good for us to suffer for doing what is right, looking to the example of Jesus Christ. "He suffered for doing what was right (2:14). His sinless life provoked the unjust hostilities of evil men. However, He did not fear men but trusted Himself to God. ...He died in mankind's place, keeping His conscience clear (cf. 2:23). As a result He received tremendous blessing and reward in His own resurrection and exultation."¹ He now sits at the right hand of God the Father with all angels, authorities and power subjected to Him. As a result, man is saved through faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ being publicly shown through water baptism (v18-v22).
- B. If we suffer for doing what is right, we can expect others to benefit, and our own deliverance, blessing, and reward to follow for suffering for doing what is right.

¹ Roger M. Raymer, *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 850–851.

- C. After His death and resurrection, Jesus spoke to the fallen angels who are imprisoned for the sins they committed with humans in the days of Noah (spoken of in Genesis 6, 2 Peter 2:4, and Jude 6-7), giving a proclamation of victory over sin and death (v19-v20).
- D. As Jesus had boldness to speak to those who opposed Him, we too will have boldness to speak to those who oppose Him as we suffer for doing what is right.

Eight Key Blessing for Suffering for What is Right

1. Suffering for righteousness' sake gives us a clearer vision of who God is. (Job 42:1-5)
2. Suffering for righteousness' sake brings us into genuine fellowship with God. (Philippians 3:9-10)
3. Suffering for righteousness' sake leads us to spiritual maturity. (1 Peter 5:10)
4. Suffering for righteousness' sake leads us to receive the comfort of God while being afflicted. (2 Corinthians 1:1-3)
5. Suffering for righteousness' sake leads us to receive rewards in heaven and on earth. (Matthew 5:11-12/Mark 10:29-30)
6. Suffering for righteousness' sake validates evidence we are Christians. (1 Peter 3:14)
7. Suffering for righteousness' sake releases the power of God our lives. (2 Corinthians 12:7-10)
8. Suffering for righteousness' sake brings forth the presence of God to others through our suffering. (2 Corinthians 4:8-11)

Key Concepts:

1. Since It was God's will for Christ to suffer for doing good, it is God's will for us who belong to Christ to also suffer for doing good.
2. Since Christ's suffering for doing good was intentional, purposeful, and for a certain time, we who belong to Christ can also expect our suffering for doing good to be intentional, purposeful, and for a certain time.
3. Since Christ was not defeated in His suffering for doing good, we who belong to Christ and share in His suffering for doing, will also not be defeated.
4. Since Christ was rewarded for His suffering for doing good, we who belong to Christ and share in His suffering for doing good, will also be rewarded.

“Since God willed Christ to suffer, then intentional and purposeful suffering can also be expected to lie along the path of the believer. But Peter encourages such sufferers again with the example of Christ in 3:18-22. Christ suffered purposefully and only for a time. His suffering was the way to his victory over all beings and authorities. Those who share in Christ’s suffering because of their faith in him will not be defeated but will also share in Christ’s victory.”²

² Karen H. Jobes, “1 Peter” (*Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament*) (Kindle Locations 5531-5535). Baker Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.