

Have You Heard of the

**FOUR**

*Spiritual Laws?*

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# FOUR

*Spiritual Laws?*

LAW **1**

God **LOVES** you and offers a wonderful  
**PLAN** for your life.



"Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists ... If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy it, that does not prove that the universe is a fraud. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing."

~ C. S. Lewis from *Mere Christianity*  
(chapter 10)





OUR HEARTS ON  
**FIRE!**

six qualities from Acts to ignite your life

*Suffering is PART of the calling to Christ*

**Acts 9:10-16**

# *Suffering is PART of the calling to Christ*

## **Acts 9:10-16**

<sup>10</sup>In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!” “Yes, Lord,” he answered.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. <sup>12</sup>In

a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.” <sup>13</sup>“Lord,” Ananias answered,

“I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your saints in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>And he has come here

with authority from the chief priests to arrest  
all who call on your name.”

# *Suffering is PART of the calling to Christ*

**Acts 9:10-16**

<sup>15</sup>But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup>I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

# *Suffering is PART of the calling to Christ*

## **Philippians 1:29, 30**

<sup>29</sup>For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him, <sup>30</sup>since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

# *Suffering is PART of the calling to Christ*

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## **Philippians 3:10, 11**

<sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

*Rejoicing over suffering... what are you nuts?*

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## **Acts 5:26-42**

<sup>26</sup>At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them. <sup>27</sup>Having brought the apostles, they made them appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. <sup>28</sup>“We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,” he said. “Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man’s blood.”

# *Rejoicing over suffering... what are you nuts?*

## **Acts 5:26-42**

<sup>29</sup>Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than men! <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead — whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. <sup>32</sup>We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

# *Rejoicing over suffering... what are you nuts?*

## **Acts 5:26-42**

<sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death. <sup>34</sup>But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honored by all the people, stood up in the Sanhedrin and ordered that the men be put outside for a little while.

# *Rejoicing over suffering... what are you nuts?*

## **Acts 5:26-42**

<sup>35</sup>Then he addressed them: “Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. <sup>36</sup>Some time ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing. <sup>37</sup>After him, Judas the Galilean appeared in the days of the census and led a band of people in revolt. He too was killed, and all his followers were scattered. <sup>38</sup>Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. <sup>39</sup>But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

# *Rejoicing over suffering... what are you nuts?*

## **Acts 5:26-42**

<sup>40</sup>His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup>The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. <sup>42</sup>Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

*Rejoicing over suffering... what are you nuts?*

**James 1:2**

Consider it pure joy, my brothers,  
whenever you face trials of many kinds . . .

# *A devotional reading of 1 Peter 3:8-4:19*

## **1 Peter 3:8-4:19**

<sup>8</sup>Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. <sup>9</sup>Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

*A devotional reading of 1 Peter 3:8-4:19*

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## **1 Peter 3:8-4:19**

<sup>10</sup>For,

“Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. <sup>11</sup>He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. <sup>12</sup>For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

# *A devotional reading of 1 Peter 3:8-4:19*

## **1 Peter 3:8-4:19**

<sup>13</sup>Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened.” <sup>15</sup>But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup>keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

# *A devotional reading of 1 Peter 3:8-4:19*

## **1 Peter 3:8-4:19**

<sup>17</sup>It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, <sup>19</sup>through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison <sup>20</sup>who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, <sup>21</sup>and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also – not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience towards God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand – with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

# *A devotional reading of 1 Peter 3:8-4:19*

## **1 Peter 3:8-4:19**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. <sup>2</sup>As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. <sup>3</sup>For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do – living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. <sup>4</sup>They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you. <sup>5</sup>But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. <sup>6</sup>For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit.

# *A devotional reading of 1 Peter 3:8-4:19*

## **1 Peter 3:8-4:19**

<sup>7</sup>The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. <sup>8</sup>Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup>Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup>Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. <sup>11</sup>If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

# *A devotional reading of 1 Peter 3:8-4:19*

## **1 Peter 3:8-4:19**

<sup>12</sup>Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you.

<sup>13</sup>But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

# *A devotional reading of 1 Peter 3:8-4:19*

## **1 Peter 3:8-4:19**

<sup>15</sup>If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. <sup>16</sup>However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. <sup>17</sup>For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup>And, “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?” <sup>19</sup>So then, those who suffer according to God’s will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.