

ouch

The image features the word "ouch" in a highly stylized, bubbly font. The letters are filled with a gradient from red to yellow and have a thick black outline. The word is centered within a jagged, starburst-shaped yellow background. Below the starburst, there is a halftone dot pattern. Several yellow five-pointed stars are scattered around the central graphic, adding to the dynamic, comic-book aesthetic.

A Reason for Every "Ouch!"

1 Peter 3:18-22

Perhaps the most common word in our language is the tiny word, "*Ouch!*" Every day, it's repeatedly expressed in variant forms around the world. It's a word that conveys pain and suffering.

A Reason for Every "Ouch!"

1 Peter 3:18-22

Peter's audience knew all about suffering, but they didn't always know how it could actually be used for anything good. Christ's own sufferings provide the best example of both the power and usefulness of suffering.

ouch

The image features the word "ouch" in a highly stylized, bubbly font. The letters are filled with a gradient from red to orange and have a thick black outline. The word is centered within a yellow, jagged starburst shape. Below the starburst, there is a pattern of small grey dots. Several yellow five-pointed stars are scattered around the word, adding to the dynamic, comic-book aesthetic.

Four things mark the path of Jesus' suffering:

1. Jesus' Crucifixion Shows Purpose (v. 18)

If ever there was anyone who suffered for doing nothing wrong and everything right, it was Jesus Christ

He died an excruciatingly painful death by crucifixion

Excruciating literally means from the cross

Four things mark the path of Jesus' suffering:

Persians invented crucifixion around 300 B.C.; the
Romans perfected it

The benefit behind His suffering was "that He might
bring us to God" (v. 18)

The veil in the temple was torn in two (Matthew
27:51, Mark 15:38)

Signifies that Jesus opened the way to God

Peter Kreeft

"Suppose you're the devil. You're the enemy of God, and you want to kill Him but you cannot. However, He has this ridiculous weakness of creating and loving human beings whom you can get at. Aha! Now you've got hostages.

Peter Kreeft

So you simply come down into the world, corrupt humankind, and drag some of them to hell. When God sends prophets to enlighten them, you kill the prophets. Then God does the most foolish thing of all; He sends His own Son and He plays by the rules of the world. You say to yourself, 'I can't believe He's that stupid.'

Peter Kreeft

Love has addled His brains. All I have to do is inspire some of my agents—Herod, Pilate, Caiaphas, the Roman soldiers—and get Him crucified.' And that is what you do. So there He hangs on the cross, forsaken by man and seemingly forsaken by God, bleeding, and crying 'My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?'

Peter Kreeft

What do you feel now as the devil? You feel triumph and vindication. But, of course, you couldn't be more wrong. This is His supreme triumph and your supreme defeat. He struck His heel into your mouth and you bit it and that blood destroyed you"

Jesus' Resurrection Shows Permanence (vv. 18-19)

Jesus' crucifixion led to His resurrection, which makes Him alive permanently; Hebrews 7:25
"It is finished" (John 19:30)—refers to our redemption, but also His suffering

Jesus' Resurrection Shows Permanence
(vv. 18-19)

Romans 8:18

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Jesus' Resurrection Shows Permanence (vv. 18-19)

If you're a believer, this earth is the closest you'll ever get to hell; it's all uphill from here

If you're an unbeliever, this earth is the closest you'll ever get to heaven; it'll get a lot worse

Jesus' Resurrection Shows Permanence (vv. 18-19)

Heaven is so unlike our earthly experience that the Bible often has to describe it in negatives;

Jesus' Resurrection Shows Permanence (vv. 18-19)

Revelation 21:4

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

Jesus' Resurrection Shows Permanence
(vv. 18-19)

The ultimate reason for Jesus' *ouch!* was you—
Hebrews 12:2