

Surviving Suffering Pt. 1

Why we suffer:

1. We suffer because we have been born into a _____ world of _____ and _____.

Romans 5:12 (NIV) Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned--

Romans 6:23 (NIV) For the wages of sin is death

Romans 8:22 (NIV) We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

2. We _____ because we _____.

Galatians 6:7-8 (NIV) A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction....

3. We _____ because _____ sin.

Psalms 59:2-4 (NIV) Deliver me from evildoers and save me from bloodthirsty men. See how they lie in wait for me! Fierce men conspire against me for no offense or sin of mine, O LORD. ⁴ I have done no wrong, yet they are ready to attack me.

What did God do with suffering?

4. God _____ suffering to _____ the _____ of sin and death.

1 Corinthians 2:6-8 (NIV) We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Revelation 5:6-10 (NIV) Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne..... And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

5. God _____ suffering to _____ us to the greatest _____ that can be reached.

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NIV) For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

Hebrews 11:35-38 (NIV) Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated-- the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.³⁵ Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection.

Romans 6:5 (NIV) If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

6. God uses suffering to make us the _____ _____ imaginable in a world that _____ God.

1 Peter 5:10 (NIV) And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

7. God uses suffering to _____ us the greatest _____ that can be granted.

Proverbs 3:12 (NIV) because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

8. _____ suffering is _____ easy, but it is _____ it.