

The Purpose of Your Pain  
The Incredible Benefits of Faith! Part 6  
Romans 5:3-4  
November 15, 2020

**Benefit #4. Your pain and your problems have a productive purpose!**

***"Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope," (vv 3-4, ESV)***

1. Why is there even suffering?
  - ☞ There is suffering in this world because of sin!
2. What does "suffering" mean?
  - Suffering is external pressure!
  - Suffering is internal distress!
3. What can it mean to rejoice in suffering?
  - Rejoicing is taking joy in knowing God's good purpose in suffering!

*"We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body." (2 Corinthians 4:8-10; NKJ)*

*"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:16-18; NKJ)*

**4. What kind of sufferings are there?**

- Suffering because of \_\_\_\_\_ . (Leads to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_)

*"Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to*

*the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter." (1 Peter 4:12-16; NKJ)*

- Suffering according to \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator." (1 Peter 4:19; NKJ)*

- Suffering for \_\_\_\_\_ .

*"For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake," (Philippians 1:29; NKJ)*

*"... when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ." (Acts 5:40-42; NKJ)*

**5. What does our suffering produce?**

*"Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope," (vv 3-4, ESV)*

- A. Suffering produces \_\_\_\_\_ !

*"For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead," (2 Corinthians 1:8-9; NKJ)*