

Engage Joy, pt 20
Surpassing Value, pt 3: Fellowship of His Sufferings
Philippians 3:1--10a

Tough texts

Paul connects concepts I would separate

Context

Personal

Powerful

Painful

Sufferings of Christ are a common description of His passion

Luke 9:22

Hebrews 2:9-10

What does this suffering fellowship entail?

1. We suffer **for the sake of Christ**

Philippians 1:29-30

2 Timothy 1:8

1 Thessalonians 2:1-2

2. We suffer in personally **dying** to sin and crucifying our flesh with all the suffering it entails in body, mind, emotion, and spirit

1 Peter 2:21, 24

NOT I must suffer, but I am **willing**, if needed

Connections with fellowship, suffering and death

1. Overlapping themes / words with the Christ hymn

If true for Christ, why not for us?

2. Suffering is something **granted** (1:29-30)

3. We can **rejoice** in suffering

1 Peter 4:13

4. Fellowship in suffering is part of fully **knowing** Christ

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

5. Current suffering is comforted with the hope of glory and the promise of ultimate **resurrection**.

1 Peter 4:16

6. Suffering does a refining, purifying, transforming work that leads us to **dependence** and holy living.

1 Peter 4:1-2

Take it Home: Benefits of suffering

1. Drives us deeply into the grace of God as it teaches us **obedience** (Heb 5:8)
2. Equips us to minister the **comfort** of God (2 Cor 1:5-12)
3. Builds **endurance** (Heb 10:32-34)