

# How God uses Suffering

*A closer look at Romans 5:1-5 on suffering*

## **Introduction:**

### **Three levels...**

**1st - Rejoice in \_\_\_\_\_**

**2nd - Rejoice in \_\_\_\_\_**

**3rd - Rejoice in \_\_\_\_\_ alone**

**#1. By remembering God \_\_\_\_\_ we will suffer.**

*Romans 5:3 we also exult in our tribulations*

*Philippians 1:29 For to you it have been granted for Christ's sake, not only to **believe** in Him, but also to **suffer** for His sake.*

*1 Peter 4: 12 Beloved, do not be **surprised** at the fiery ordeal among you which comes upon you for your testing, as though some **strange thing** were happening to you.*

*1 Peter 4:13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.*

*1 Peter 4:19 Therefore, let those also who suffer **according to the will of God** entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.*

*James 1:2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials*

*Matthew 5:11-12: Blessed are you when men cast insults at you and persecute you and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, on account of Me. Rejoice, and be glad for your reward in heaven is great...*

- **Suffering is the \_\_\_\_\_ pains of the soul.**

#2. By understanding what suffering \_\_\_\_\_ and is \_\_\_\_\_.

*3 we also exult in our tribulations,*

- **What is suffering?**

**Anything that causes \_\_\_\_\_ in your life**

- **What rejoicing in suffering doesn't mean...**

**1st - Paul doesn't mean \_\_\_\_\_ it.**

**2nd - Paul doesn't mean \_\_\_\_\_ the pain.**

#3. By \_\_\_\_\_ what suffering \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives.

*3 knowing that tribulation brings about*

James 1:2-3 *Consider it joy when you encounter various trials. Knowing that the testing of your faith produces*

- ***There is a \_\_\_\_\_ behind the pain***

**1st. Suffering produces perseverance**

- ***The key word is \_\_\_\_\_***

**The opposite of perseverance is \_\_\_\_\_**

The disciples on the sea of Galilee.

*1st - Lord, don't you know what's happening?*

*2nd - Lord, don't you care?*

2 Cor.1:8ff/living *I think you ought to know, dear brothers, about the hard time we went through in Asia. We were really crushed and overwhelmed and feared we would never live through it! We felt we were doomed to die. But this happened so that we would not rely on ourselves but on God.*

**2nd. Suffering produces \_\_\_\_\_**

- *The key word is \_\_\_\_\_*
- *The heat of suffering skims off the dross in our lives and purifies our character, making us veterans*

**3rd. Suffering produces \_\_\_\_\_**

- *The key word is \_\_\_\_\_*

Phil. 4:13 *I can handle all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

**4th. Suffering produces \_\_\_\_\_**

*5 and hope does not disappoint.  
KJV hope does not make us ashamed*

- *The key word is \_\_\_\_\_*

2 Cor. 1: 3-4 *God ... who comforts us in all our affliction. So that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.*

**#4. By avoiding destructive \_\_\_\_\_ while suffering.**

**1st. \_\_\_\_\_**

1 Samuel 15:23 *For rebellion is as the sin of divination. And insubordination is a iniquity and idolatry*

**2nd. \_\_\_\_\_**

Ecclesiastes 2:17, NIV *So I hated life, because the work that is done under the sun is grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.*

**3rd. \_\_\_\_\_**

Phil 2:14-15 *Do all things without grumbling or disputing; that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world*

**4th.** \_\_\_\_\_

1 Peter 5:7 *Cast all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you.*  
Philippians 4:6 *Be anxious for nothing*

**5th. Self** \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 69:20 *Reproach has broken my heart and I am so sick.. And I looked for sympathy but there was none. And for comforters, but I found none.*

**#5.** \_\_\_\_\_ on God's \_\_\_\_\_ in suffering.

*5 because the love of God as been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

**1st-** \_\_\_\_\_ upon the \_\_\_\_\_

- There are 2 basic responses to suffering...  
#1) \_\_\_\_\_ God or #2) \_\_\_\_\_ God.

**2nd-Reliance upon God's** \_\_\_\_\_

**#6.** By \_\_\_\_\_ walking \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus

Ephesians 5:18 *be filled with the Spirit.*  
Colossians 3:16 *Let the Word of Christ richly dwell within you*

**#7.** By avoiding \_\_\_\_\_ actions while suffering.

**1st. Postpone all major** \_\_\_\_\_

**2nd. Don't go into** \_\_\_\_\_

**3rd. Keep up with life's** \_\_\_\_\_

**4th. Admit your true** \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion:**