

# SUFFERING AS A CHRISTIAN

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- AS CHRISTIANS, WE SHOULD EXPECT SUFFERING
- WE ARE TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST

**NOTE:** See separate study entitled "[Before and After.](#)"

## Christian suffering - the biblical warnings, instructions and models

- Act 9:15-16 But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup>I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."
- Act 14:22b "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said.
- Jam 1:2-4(5) Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup>because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. <sup>4</sup>Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. (<sup>5</sup>If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.)
- Rom 5:3-4 (Not only so, but) we (also) rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope.
- Rom 8:18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.
- 2Co 4:17-18 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup>So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.
- Act 5:41 The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.
- Heb 11:24-27 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. <sup>25</sup>He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. <sup>26</sup>He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. <sup>27</sup>By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.
- 1Pe 1:6-7 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. <sup>7</sup>These have come so that your faith-of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire-may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.
- Heb 2:10 In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering.
- Heb 2:18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.
- Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are-yet was without sin.

- Heb 12:3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.
- 1Pe 4:1-2 Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. <sup>2</sup>As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.
- Phl 1:29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him,
- 1Pe 4:12-16 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. <sup>15</sup>If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. <sup>16</sup>However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.
- 1Pe 2:19-21 For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. <sup>20</sup>But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. <sup>21</sup>To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.
- 1Pe 3:17 It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.
- 1Pe 4:19 So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.
- 1Jn 3:13 Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you.
- Jn 15:18-21 "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. <sup>19</sup>If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. <sup>20</sup>Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. <sup>21</sup>They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me.
- Mt 10:22-23a All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another.
- 2Ti 3:12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,
- Rev 12:17 Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring—those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.
- Heb 12:4 In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.
- Jam 1:12 Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.
- Jam 5:10 Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
- 2Ti 1:7-8 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. <sup>8</sup>So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God,
- Mt 5:11-12 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.