

# The Fellowship of Christ's SUFFERING

## The Virtue Of Sharing In The Fellowship Of Christ's Suffering

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The message taught by popular “prosperity” teachers during the past half century has focused primarily on the blessings of the gospel but often minimize the message that speaks of sharing in the sufferings of Christ. Hyper-faith teachers like Kenneth Copeland, Creflo Dollar, Jesse Duplantis, Joyce Meyer, Benny Hinn and many others have gotten rich preaching that the power of faith in Christ guarantees wholeness, healing and prosperity. There are those proof text which point to prospering as the soul prospers. Like: *Phillipians 4:19 Our God will supply all of our need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.* This letter was written by Paul as he awaited execution. *Giving: ‘Give and it shall be given to you’* is a standard promise of blessing and rewards for giving. *Luke\_6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that you measure it shall be measured to you again.* The 30, 60, 100-fold return from planting is another favorite that is quoted for “seed faith.” It is true that there are scriptures that support the prosperity message. That is the source of the name “Word” of faith.

What I am offering here are scriptures that provide a balance to blessing, and prosperity in the present world. These verses point to being a partaker in Christ’s suffering for the gospel’s sake. The virtue and sacrifices of the pilgrim-believer promise eternal rewards and treasures laid up in heaven. We may consider also the wisdom of the phrase, *“the deceitfulness of riches”* and *“It is hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”*

#### **1Peter 4:1**

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

#### **1Peter 5:10**

And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

#### **2Corinthians 4:17**

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,

### 2Timothy 3:12

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be Persecuted,

### Colossians 1:24

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,

### Galatians 6:2

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

### Heb 2:10

For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation Perfect through suffering.

### Isaiah 43:2

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

### Isaiah 53:3

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

### James 1:2

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,

Joh 16:33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have Peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

### Luke 14:27

Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

### Phillipians 3:10

“..that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

### Psalm 34:19

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Psalm 119:71

It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.

Rev 21:4

He will wash away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Romans 5:3-5

Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4- and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5- and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

2Corinthians 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 2Corinthians 1:4 ..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.

1Peter 4:12 - 13

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13, But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

1Peter 3:18-19

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, -19 in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison,

1Peter 1:6-7

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, -7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1Peter 2:19-20

For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. :20 For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it,

you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

2Co 4:8-10

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup> always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

James 1:2-4

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Charles Pinkney, 02/12/2026