

A PERSPECTIVE ON SUFFERING

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« God feels concern for us.

“How can I give you up, Ephraim?

How can I hand you over, Israel?

How can I treat you like Admah?

How can I make you like Zeboiim?

My heart is changed within me;

all my compassion is aroused.

⁹ I will not carry out my fierce anger,
nor will I turn and devastate Ephraim.

For I am God, and not man—

the Holy One among you.

I will not come in wrath. Hosea 11:8–9

As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who
fear him;

¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.

Psalm 103:13-14

A PERSPECTIVE ON SUFFERING

- « God feels concern for us.
- « God suffers with us.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

For he has not despised or disdained
the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.

Psalm 22:1, 24

A PERSPECTIVE ON SUFFERING

- « God feels concern for us.
- « God suffers with us.
- « We are united with Christ in suffering and glory.

I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: ²³ I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

John 17:22-23

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

Galatians 2:20

Now if we are children, then we are heirs—
heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed
we share in his sufferings in order that we may
also share in his glory. ¹⁸ I consider that our
present sufferings are not worth comparing
with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Romans 8:17-18

Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Romans 6:3-4

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. ⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.

2 Corinthians 1:3-5

A PERSPECTIVE ON SUFFERING

- « God feels concern for us.
- « God suffers with us.
- « We are united with Christ in suffering and glory.
- « Can we embrace our suffering?

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:2-4

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

1 Peter 4:12-13

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Philippians 3:10-11.