

# Called to Suffer and Rejoice

## Part 1- Suffering for Holiness and Hope

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January 13, 2013

### **Romans 5:1-8**

**1** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

**2** through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

**3** And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

**4** and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

**5** and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

**6** For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

**7** For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die.

**8** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

To the Glory of God

How does a Pastor prepare a Church for suffering? I think there are at least five ways:

1. **Prepare your church for suffering through a steady and nourishing diet of Holy Scripture.** For this task I can commend to you- the inspired Books of **Job, Habakkuk, and 1Peter** and encourage you to read them and study them and to know them and understand them and to memorize many of the verses and passages and preach them to yourself as you suffer.

2. **Draw the Church's attention to people who “suffer well”.** Find people who are both dead and alive who have gone through horrific sufferings and who have remained faithful and humble and broken and spend time reading what they have written and listening to what they say.

3. **Develop a curriculum of supplemental books, chapters, articles, and messages on the topic of Suffering.** Some I can whole- heartedly commend to you:

- ✓ D.A. Carson, *How Long, O Lord? Reflections on Suffering and Evil*
- ✓ John Piper’s sermon series *“Treasuring Christ and the Call to Suffer”* (parts 1, 2, 3, 4, Q/A)
- ✓ Joni Eareckson Tada and Steve Estes, *When God Weeps: Why Our Sufferings Matter to the Almighty*
- ✓ Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God: Even When Life Hurts*
- ✓ David Powlison, *“God’s Grace and Your Sufferings,”* especially a chapter entitled *Suffering and the Sovereignty of God*
- ✓ C.H. Spurgeon, *Beside Still Waters: Words of Comfort for Your Soul*

4. **Point the Church to the suffering Savior in the Gospel.** “The great mystery of life is not *“Why do I suffer?”* The great mystery is *why would the sinless Son of God suffer as my Substitute on the Cross for my sins, receiving the Wrath that I so deserve, so that I might be forgiven and declared righteous?”* Take your eyes and mind off your troubles and put them on Jesus.

5. **When suffering arrives- be at their side.** By God’s grace, when we care for people in the midst of suffering, they will never forget the difference we make. Their gratefulness will be deep and it will be profound and it will be unending.

Now if the main objective of God was to provide His children with safety and happiness and prosperity and healthy and strong bodies in this life- if that were God’s main Objective- to make this life better and easier for us- then it would be true that suffering would not only be a

huge inconvenience but also a colossal waste of God's time. If the main objective of Salvation was to allow His children to escape and avoid punishment and discipline and chastisement and correction- then the famous television preachers on the Hay, Wood, and Stubble Television Network would be right and we should spend our time in "binding the devil" and in "casting out" the trials and in "rising up in faith" and in "speaking creatively" against the pain and misery of this life so that we may avoid all suffering and so that we may be delivered from it and so that we may escape it on this earth and go about to live that good and happy and secure life.

If it were true that the only reason why God's people suffer is because they lack the faith that it takes to overcome it or to cast it aside or to be free from it- then those teachers would be telling the Truth. If only that were true...

But if it is true that God's main Objective in saving His children is not to give them a better life down here but to mold them and shape them and change them into the Image and Likeness of our Lord Jesus Christ; if it is God's main Objective and Purpose that through strong and powerful and mountain moving faith that we endure suffering rather than avoid it; that we are changed by our suffering rather than escape it; and that we are exercised by going through our suffering rather than by casting it out- if it God's main Objective and Purpose that makes us holy rather than happy; to make us faithful rather than financially secure and if it is God's Will that we are humble rather than healthy- if *those* things were true- then I suggest to you that suffering is *not* some annoyance that we should strive to be free from; that it is not some out of control evil for which we should employ our great faith to "bind"; and it is not an equal power in some titanic struggle against God for which God is waiting patiently for us to rise up and stop- but that suffering is actually one of our best friends that God is Sovereign over and that is an instrument in God's Hands- that by His Spirit He affects to His Own Glory and our ultimate Good and that suffering- even horrific suffering- is a tool in the hand of a Good and Merciful God that God uses to bring about His Plan and His Purposes and His Will in the earth.

I would suggest to you that there are many other things that are far worse than suffering and things for which we should fear far more than suffering. For example- we should fear that we as God's people

have a testimony that we have stopped loving the world that is passing away and that our Treasure really and truly is not on this earth but is in Heaven far more than we should dread any suffering that may be coming our way. Husbands should fear that they are not loving their wives like Christ loved the church and that they are not leading their families and that they are not assuming the role of prophet and priest in their homes and that sin and worldliness is rampant in the lives of those living under their roof far more than they should fear any suffering. Wives should fear that they are disrespecting their husbands and are living lives in complete isolation to the authority of their husbands and that they are not training the younger women to be godly and chaste and virtuous far more than any suffering that may be coming their way. Children should fear that they are disrespecting their parents and are rebelling against their parents and are consumed by the desire to be popular rather than any suffering that may be coming their way.

We should fear that our lives are not lived in sacrifice to the risen Savior and that the sin of our hearts is dominating our lives and that we are deceived about our own spirituality and that our hearts are idol factories that turn out new and innovative idols and idolatries every moment; we should fear Him Who has the Power to cast both body and soul in to hellfire infinitely more than we should ever fear that we might suffer.

It is a testimony to the affect that man-made and false teaching has had on us and a testimony to our own willingness to be deceived that after 2,000 years of Christianity being on the earth that any genuine believer who spends any time at all reading the Bible and who lives in a world that is so filled with pain and misery would actually think that they will escape suffering.

The Holy and Inerrant Word of the living God is filled with passages breathed out by God the Holy Spirit that *promise* that those who follow Jesus will indeed suffer and yet the issue of Suffering is looked at by an ever growing number of people within the modern Church as a curse rather than a blessing; as something that should be overcome rather than something to endure; and as something that can and should be avoided rather than a tool in God's Hands to mold and shape us into the Image and Likeness of Jesus; as something that is purely the result of Man's bad choices and a fallen angel running amuck

in the earth rather than the Will of a an absolutely Sovereign God- and while literally millions of Blood bought and Spirit filled souls are suffering unspeakable pain and agony right at this moment- many prima donna charlatans arrogantly teach today from the safety and security of the most secure and the most prosperous nation in the history of the world that if only these precious souls were spiritual enough- they could avoid suffering altogether.

It is simply not possible in the minds of many in the modern Church that a Good and Sovereign God would not only *allow* but actually *desire* the Persecution of His Own Children and yet I will try by God's help to show you that that is exactly what the Bible teaches and that is exactly what the majority of the leaders of the Christian Church have taught for 2,000 years until the last 150 years or so.

I hope that over the next four weeks- to help you prepare to suffer for Christ for two very important reasons:

1. I believe we should prepare to suffer for Christ because the Bible says that we should
2. I believe that our modern situation says we should.

David Barrett, the missionary scholar who edited *The Oxford World Christian Encyclopedia*, publishes each year an update on the state of the Christian movement around the world with projections of what things might be like in the year 2020. In this year's update he reported these amazing statistics:

- ✓ In 1980 there were about 270,000 Christian martyrs worldwide.
- ✓ This year (2013) there will be probably 308,000
- ✓ In the year 2020 he estimates 500,000 believers per year will be killed because of their faith in Jesus Christ.

These are people who are tortured and are killed because they are Christians and because of believing the Bible to be true and because they will not denounce or reject the Truths of Scripture and because they apply the Truths of Scripture to the way in which they live their daily lives.

In Somalia today tens of thousands of Christians are being intentionally isolated and starved to death by rival Muslim factions.

The tensions between Muslim and Christian populations in Nigeria is dangerously explosive. The millions of Christians in China and many other countries live in constant danger of harassment and imprisonment.

In our own land- the secular society at large, especially the intellectual elites and media leaders, are increasingly hostile to the evangelical church and the biblical vision of righteousness and goodness and Creation for which we stand. The first amendment has been so twisted in the service of secular antagonists that it would not be unthinkable any longer for some judge to argue that public provision of water and electricity and sewer to the buildings of Christian churches provides an unconstitutional establishment of religion by government resources and regulations. I have been preaching consistently since the early 1970's that the day will come in this country where in effect it will be against the law to be a practicing Christian in the United States and the mystery is not that this would happen in our country but that it has taken so long to come about.

Peaceful, pro-life protesters who are simply praying on public property can be violently assaulted by abortion defenders, as in Buffalo, New York, and Atlanta and receive no protection from police but instead be charged with a crime.

The Name of Jesus is openly despised and blasphemed by famous entertainers in a way that in previous decades would have made them reprehensible in the eyes of the public, but today is applauded and approved or silently passed over.

What all this amounts to is that being a true Bible believing Christian is going to cost us more in the years to come. And finishing the Great Commission is going to cost some believers our lives- as it already has- and which it always has. Eighteen hundred years ago the Church Father, Tertullian said,

"We [Christians] multiply whenever we are mown down by you [unbelievers]; the blood of Christians is seed" (Apologeticus, 50).

And 200 years later Jerome said,

"The Church of Christ has been founded by shedding its own blood, not that of others; by enduring outrage, not by inflicting it. Persecutions have made it

grow; martyrdoms have crowned it" (Letter 82).

We talk so much about “closed countries” today that we have almost totally lost God's Perspective on missions- as though God ever meant the spreading of His Gospel to be easy and safe. There are no “closed countries” to those who assume that persecution, imprisonment, and death are the normal and natural results of spreading the Gospel. And Jesus Himself said very plainly that they *are* the normal and natural results.

**Matthew 24:9**

**"Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.**

**John 15:20**

**Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.**

Until we recover God's Perspective on suffering and the spread of the Gospel- we will never rejoice in the triumphs of Grace that He plans.

Obedience in preaching the Gospel and in actually applying the Gospel to the way we live our daily lives and the way in which we order our families and the way in which we handle money and raise our children has *always* been costly, and it always will be.

For example- in the village of Miango, Nigeria, there is a guest house and a small church called “Kirk Chapel”. Behind the chapel is a small cemetery with 56 graves in it. Thirty-three of them hold the small bodies of missionary children. Three of those stones read:

- ✓ "Ethyl Arnold: September 1, 1928–September 2, 1928."
- ✓ "Barbara J. Swanson: 1946–1952."
- ✓ "Eileen Louise Whitmoyer: May 6, 1952–July 3, 1955."

This was the cost of taking the Gospel of Nigeria for many families who loved God and who served Him faithfully. Charles White told his

story about visiting this little graveyard and ended it with a tremendously powerful sentence. He said,

"The only way we can understand the graveyard at Miango is to remember that God also buried His Own Son on the mission field. And when He raised Him from the dead- He called the Church to follow Him into the same dangerous field called "all the world."

But are we really willing to follow?

Several years ago- back in the early 1990's in Ermelo, Holland- the famous Missionary called- Brother Andrew- told the story of sitting in Budapest, Hungary, with a dozen pastors of that city teaching them from the Bible. In walked an old friend, a pastor from Romania who had recently been released from prison. Brother Andrew said that he stopped teaching and knew that it was time to listen. After a long pause the Romanian pastor said,

*"Andrew, are there any pastors in prison in Holland?"*

"No," he replied.

*"Why not?"* the pastor asked.

Brother Andrew thought for a moment and said,

*"I think it must be because we do not take advantage of all the opportunities God gives us."*

Then came the most difficult question.

*"Andrew, what do you do with **2Timothy 3:12**?"*

Brother Andrew opened his Bible and turned to the text and read aloud,

**"All who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."**

Brother Andrew closed the Bible slowly and said,



*"Brother, please forgive me. We do nothing with that verse."*

We have, I fear, domesticated the concept of godliness into being such an inoffensive American Southern middle class morality and law-keeping that **2Timothy 3:12** has become unintelligible to us to the point that many of us are really not prepared to suffer much for the Gospel. And that is why I feel compelled to take the month of January dealing with what the Bible says about this and what God is calling us to today.

Each of the next four messages over the next four will deal with one of four Biblical purposes for our suffering. And we can speak of purposes for suffering because it is clearly God's Purpose that we at times suffer for righteousness' sake and for the sake of the Gospel. For example,

#### **1Peter 4:19**

**Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.**

#### **Hebrews 12:4-11**

**4** You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin;

**5** and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, "MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD, NOR FAINT WHEN YOU ARE REPROVED BY HIM;

**6** FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES, AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES."

**7** It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom *his* father does not discipline?

**8** But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

**9** Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live?

**10** For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He *disciplines us* for *our* good, so that we may share His holiness.

**11** All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

So all throughout the Bible- we can find at least four purposes for suffering:

1. **The Moral (Spiritual) Purpose-** because suffering refines our holiness and hope (**Romans 5:1–8**),
2. **The Intimacy Purpose-** because in suffering our relationship with Christ becomes deeper and sweeter (**Philippians 3:7–14**)
3. **The Missions Purpose-** because God calls us to complete Christ's Afflictions as we extend the Worth of His Suffering through the reality of our own (**Colossians 1:24**)
4. **The Glory Purpose-** because this slight, momentary affliction is working for us an eternal weight of glory (**2Corinthians 4:16–18**).

Today I want to look at the first one:

### **The Moral (Spiritual) Purpose for Suffering**

In **Romans 5**- the Bible teaches that God ordains that believers suffer for the Gospel and for the Cause of Righteousness because of the powerful moral and spiritual effects that it has on us. Let's read again **Romans 5:3&4** together:

- 3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;**  
**4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;**

Now the way that the Greek is written here- we know that what Paul actually wrote is:

- 3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;**  
**4 and perseverance, [brings about] proven character; and proven character, [brings about] hope;**

So immediately after showing that we are justified by Grace through Faith alone and not by our obedience to keep the Law- and that we have access through Jesus into that Grace and that we stand by faith in that Grace the Apostle Paul then says in verse 2 that we

Christians

**"...exult in hope of the glory of God."**

So the chief *cause* of deep and lasting Joy in the Christian life is the eager expectation that we will see and share in the Glory of God. So it is true to say that

Hope for God's Glory is the Source of our Joy

And if that is true- then Paul is perfectly consistent to go on and say in verses 3 and 4 that we will also exult in the things that makes our hope to increase. And that's the line of reasoning here: we start with the Hope of the Glory of God at the end of verse 2, and then we end with hope at the end of verse 4. And the point that the Apostle is making is:

If We Exult in Hope- We Will Also Exult in What Brings About That Hope.

So verses 3 and 4 describes what that is.

**3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;**

**4 and perseverance, [brings about] proven character; and proven character, [brings about] hope;**

So the *reason* that we “**exult in tribulations**” is *not* because we like pain or misery or discomfort or trouble (we are not masochists) and it is not simply that we have developed our own courage or bravery (this isn't about human effort either)- but precisely because tribulations produce what we *do* like- which is- a stronger and stronger sense of Hope- which only comes through the experience of patient perseverance and a sense of being approved. That is what Paul is teaching here.

So the main lesson here is that God has a Good and Wise Purpose in the sufferings of His people. And that Purpose is often different from the ministry goal that these people are laboring in. The ministry goal might be to evangelize Gulfport's single people, or suburban professionals outside New York or even Muslims in Turkey. But God's

Purpose might be to produce more Hope in the ministers and missionaries by putting them in prison.

Now God is actually always doing more than just that (as we will see in weeks to come), but if that is all that God was doing- it would be enough.

In other words- God doesn't go about the concepts of "ministry productivity and efficiency" the way that we do. Again and again Paul had to reckon with the strange Work of God through his imprisonments and through his beatings and through his shipwrecks and through all his broken plans- which on the surface seem to be hindrances and barriers to getting the Gospel to these other lands.

How could God be so inefficient as to let His Will to spread the Gospel to other lands be blocked like this again and again? Or was God doing something else with Paul that is not so evident until we actually study the Scriptures? As **Romans 5** teaches us- the answer would be:

God is not simply interested in reaching the lost with the Gospel- but God is also committed to increasing the hope and the holiness of His people in the process of them reaching the lost.

And only God knows how to balance those two things and bring them to pass in the best way. And God's chosen method of doing that is through the suffering of His people.

Now let's look at the effect of afflictions more specifically. There are three specific effects mentioned in verses 3 and 4.

- A. Perseverance
- B. Proven Character
- C. Hope

Let's look at these closely.

### **A. Perseverance**

#### **Romans 5:3**

**And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;**

The Bible says here that tribulation *brings about* or *causes* or *helps to manifest* something called, “perseverance” which is just another way of saying “patient endurance” in the lives of His people. But how does suffering bring that about? I think the answer lies in the fact that for suffering to be suffering- it must linger; it isn’t something that comes suddenly and then vanishes away but suffering stays a while and it lasts and it doesn’t stop very quickly. But how does that develop this patient endurance that Paul is talking about? I think the answer to that lies in what he said in our passage from last week over in **Romans 8**- so let’s go over there and read that together- **Romans 8: 16-25**

- 16** The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,  
**17** and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with *Him*.  
**18** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.  
**19** For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.  
**20** For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope  
**21** that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.  
**22** For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.  
**23** And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.  
**24** For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he *already* sees?  
**25** But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

So God has set it up on purpose that our suffering isn’t something that comes and leaves very quickly but our sufferings linger so that it can have its effect on our lives to produce in us the patient endurance of the hope that we develop to see and to experience the Glory of God.

Now by no means does the Apostle teach here that this is *universally* true because for those who are unregenerate- those who are not genuinely born from above- tribulations do not produce patient endurance in the hope of the Glory of God- rather they unleash a hatred and a bitterness and an anger and a resentment and a murmuring that eventually destroys them.

But by God's Grace- that is *not* the ongoing effect in those who have the Spirit of Christ. For them- the effect of suffering is patient endurance- because one of the fruit of the Spirit is "patience".

The point here is that until hardship comes into our lives- especially hardship for the sake of Christ and His Righteousness- we really do not know or experience the extent and depth of our devotion to Jesus Christ. Until times get hard- until there is a price to pay for faithfulness to Jesus- we do not taste and we really do not know if we are nothing but fair-weather friends of Jesus- the kind of people Jesus described in the parable of the soils in **Mark 4:16–17**. Let's look at that together: **Mark 4:16&17**:

#### **Mark 4:16&17**

**16** In a similar way these are the ones on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy;

**17** and they have no *firm* root in themselves, but are *only* temporary; then, when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they fall away.

So Paul is saying that one great effects of tribulation is that it brings about a patient endurance and perseverance in God's people, so that by that patient endurance- they can see the faithfulness of God in their lives and by that- they can know that they are truly His.

## **2. Proven Character**

### **Romans 5:4**

**and perseverance [brings about] proven character; and proven character [brings about] hope;**

The phrase, "proven character" comes from the Greek word, *dokimen* which literally means: *the experience of being tested and*

*approved*. And we could substitute the words "approvedness" or "provenness" here as well.

And this is not really hard to grasp. If, when tribulations come, you persevere in your devotion to Jesus Christ and don't turn against Him and you don't turn to the sin of this world for comfort and hope- then you always come out of that experience with a stronger sense that you are real; that you are proven; and that you are not a hypocrite.

The tree of your trust was bent by the storms of life but praise be to God- it didn't break. Your fidelity and loyalty were put to the test and they passed! And the Bible says that the result is that now you have a "proven character"- and character that has been proven to be real and true and Biblical. The gold of your faith was put into the fire and it came out refined, not consumed.

That is why we must remember that the Bible teaches that although trials involve our bodies and our minds and our money and our children and our marriages- that what is really being tried and tested and proven is our faith- our confidence in Jesus Christ; our trust in what He said and our faithfulness to hold on to what He said- regardless of what may come or go.

In the 18<sup>th</sup> Century- even before the United States was founded- somebody wrote that timeless hymn- "How Firm a Foundation" which deals with the issue of remaining faithful in suffering and part of that song says:

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply  
The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

So that's the second effect of suffering- the proving and refining of the gold of our allegiance to Jesus. Perseverance *in* suffering brings about the assurance of provenness.

### 3. Hope

#### **Romans 5:4**

**... and perseverance [brings about] proven character; and proven character [brings about] hope;**

The third effect comes from this sense of being tested and approved and refined. Verse 4b: **"And proven character [brings about] hope."** And this takes us back to verse 2 that says:

**"We exult in the hope of the glory of God."**

So the Christian life begins with Hope in the Promises of God in the Gospel to forgive and save and then it spirals up through affliction to more and more hope.

And "Approvedness" brings about more hope because our hope grows when we experience the reality of our own authenticity through testing. So it is true to say:

The people who know God the best are the people who suffer with Christ the most.

The people who are most unwavering in their hope are those who have been tested most deeply. The people who look most earnestly and steadfastly and eagerly to the hope of Glory are those who have had the comforts of this life stripped away through many tribulations.

So the first thing we should say about suffering and affliction in this series is that God has a Good and Wise and Satisfying and Joyful Purpose in it. And that Purpose is to bring out the patient endurance of His people for the sake of His Name; and through that- to test and prove and refine the reality of faith and allegiance to Jesus Christ; and through that sense of approvedness- to strengthen and deepen and intensify our hope.

We have several ministry goals in this Church with Nursing Homes and jails and Evangelism and Radio Broadcasts and just how much of this God in His Sovereignty will bring to pass- I do not know. But this I *do* know- that in our obedient pursuit of the goals that God has laid before us- God has a Purpose for every obstacle and every frustration and every pain and every affliction, and every setback and that Purpose- the desire that God has to develop perseverance and your proven character and your hope in the Glory of God- is just as important as the goals of reaching the lost and edifying other believers.

So whatever else God may be doing at the planning level of our lives- *this* He is *always* doing at the heart level of your life. However successful we might be in reaching this Coast for Jesus Christ- *this* we



can know for sure- that in our struggles and through our sufferings and not in spite of them- God has Promised to develop within each one of us who is genuinely born again- a deep and profound and powerful perseverance that will always lead to prove our character which will always lead to increased hope in the Promises of God.

And so let us join in with the Apostle Paul and exult in the hope of the Glory of God and also in the Sufferings that are Promised and that are sure to some.

Let's pray.