

## SUFFERING (#2) UNDESERVED SUFFERING

Teleiology is a theology term used to describe the study of spiritual growth maturity in CWL (Heb.5:14; Matt.4:4).

We are studying 12 church age doctrines that are essential for spiritual growth maturity.

Today we are studying the eighth Teleiology doctrine:

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Grace           | Positional Truth |
| Dispensations   | Spiritual Gifts  |
| Spirituality    | The Will of God  |
| The Faith Cycle | <b>Suffering</b> |

Last week we introduced the doctrine of suffering. We learned that suffering is universal because of Adam's Original Sin (AOS) (Matt.24:6-8) (Gen.3:16) [birth pains].

We learned that Jesus Christ came into the world to redeem mankind from the hopelessness of suffering under AOS (1 Pet.1:10-12, 18-19; 1 Thess.4:13).

We also learned that like salvation, Undeserved Suffering (U/S) [suffering for Christ] is a grace privilege.

(Phil.1:29). "For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake."

We will begin by examining our lesson text by the following five homiletic points regarding Undeserved Suffering

- 2 Cor.1:3-4                      God comforts us in U/S
- 2 Cor.1:5-6                      Christ comforts us in U/S                      (Heb.4:15-16)
- 2 Cor.1:7                              Christians comfort us in U/S                      (1 Cor.12:26)
- 2 Cor.1:8-10                      Faith cycle comforts us in U/S
- 2 Cor.1:11                              Prayer comforts us in U/S

**Today's lesson will study five aspects of Undeserved Suffering in CWL (Christian way of life)**

### 1. There are three categories of suffering in CWL.

- **Self-induced misery:**  
(Prov.26:11) "Like a dog that returns to his vomit is a fool who repeats his folly."  
(Prov.25:16) "Have you found honey? Eat only what you need, lest you have it in excess and vomit it.
- **Divine discipline**  
(Heb.12:5-11) "For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep. If we judged ourselves rightly, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord in order that we may not be condemned along with the world." (1 Cor.11:30-32)
- **Undeserved Suffering (U/S)**  
(1 Pet.4:19) "Therefore, let those who suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right."  
(1 Pet.3:17) "For it is better, **if God should will it so**, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong." (2 Cor.12:10; Phil.3:10)

**2. U/S is a normal part of the CWL in the devil's world.**

(Phil.1:29) “**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 Pet.4:12)

(1 Pet.1:6-7) “**In this greatly rejoice**, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, that **the proof of your faith**, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, **may be found to result** in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”; James 1:2-4; Rom.5:3-5)

**3. Therefore every CAB should learn the doctrine of suffering so that he does not become disillusioned about God and the CWL.**

(1 Pet.4:12b) “as though some strange thing were happening to you.” (1 Thess.3:3-4; 2 Tim.3:11-12; 1 Pet.1:6; 2:19)

(1 Pet.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 Pet.1:6; James 1:2)

(1 Pet.4:14) “If you are reviled for the name of Christ, **you are blessed**, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.” (1 Pet.3:14)

(2 Cor.4:8-10) “We are afflicted in every way, **but not crushed**; perplexed, **but not despairing**; persecuted, **but not forsaken**; struck down, **but not destroyed**; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.” (2 Tim.2:8-10)

**4. U/S allows the spiritual advancing believer to glorify God on behalf of His Son in a unique way in the church age.**

(1 Pet.2:21) “For you have been called for this purpose, since **Christ also suffered for you**, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps” (1 Pet.19-23; Heb.5:8).

(1 Pet.4:16) “But if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not feel ashamed, but in that Name let him glorify God.”

(Acts 5:41b) “Rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His Name.”

(1 Pet.5:10) “And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.”

**5. The crown of life will be awarded at the judgment seat of Christ to the CAB who endures U/S**

(James 1:12) “Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive **the crown of life**, which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.” (2 Thess.1:5)

(James 5:11) “Behold, we count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the **endurance of Job** and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.”

(Rev.2:10) “Do not fear what you about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, that you may be **tested**, and you will have **tribulation** ten days. Be faithful until death and I will give you the **crown of life**.” (Church of Smyrna)