

# 1 THESSALONIANS

## Christian Suffering

1Thessalonians 1:6, 2:2, 2:14, 3:3, 3:7

### Lesson 6

15 January 2024

The model Christian does not have the same promises of material prosperity that were such a prominent part of the old covenant between God and Israel. The world will hate and persecute the followers of Christ just as vehemently as they did the Lord.

#### I. THE EXPERIENCE OF MODEL CHRISTIANS

- A. Much affliction (1:6).
- B. Suffered, shamefully entreated (2:2).
- C. Suffered of countrymen (2:14).
- D. Afflictions (3:3).
- E. Distresses (3:7).

#### II. THE FACT OF SUFFERING

- A. It is inevitable (Job 5:7; 14:1).
- B. Even for the believer (John 16:33; 15:18-21; 17:14)

#### III. TWO KINDS OF SUFFERING

- A. For wrongdoing (Galatians 6:7, 1 Peter 2:20).
- B. For right living (1 Peter 1:19-20; 4:12-16, Matthew 5:11-12).

#### IV. THE PURPOSE OF THE CHRISTIAN'S SUFFERING

- A. To make us sympathetic and able to rightly minister (2 Corinthians 1:1-4; 7:6-7).
- B. To keep humble (2 Corinthians 12:7).
- C. To prove God's grace sufficient (2 Corinthians 12:8-10, Philippians 4:13).
- D. To make spiritually mature (Romans 5:3-5).
- E. To make happy at present (1 Peter 3:14).
- F. To make happy at Christ's return (1 Peter 4:12-16).
- G. To prove the promises of God (2 Corinthians 1:20).

**Note:** A Christianity without suffering is non-Biblical.

**Note:** The Christian who is suffering in this present world for the sake of the gospel is the one ever looking for Christ's return (3:13).

□ □ □