

Page # 24a / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

James 1:2-4 (NLT) **Dear brothers and sisters, whenever trouble comes your way, Let it be an opportunity for joy.**

[3] For **when** your **faith** is **tested**, your **endurance** has a **chance** to **grow**.

[4] So **let it grow**, for when your **endurance** is **fully developed**,

You will be **strong** in character and **ready** for anything.

Hebrews 12:5-6 (NLT) **And have you entirely forgotten**

The encouraging words God spoke to you, his children?

He said, “My child, Don’t ignore it

When the Lord disciplines you,

And don’t be discouraged when He corrects you.

[6] **For the Lord disciplines those he loves,**

And He punishes those he accepts as his children.”

Hebrews 12:5-6 (KJV) **And you have forgotten**

The **exhortation** which speaks **unto** you as **unto children**,

My son, **don’t** you despise **the chastening of the Lord**,

Or faint when you are **rebuked of Him**:

[6] For **whom** **the Lord loves he chastens**,

And scourges every son whom **He receives**.

2 Cor. 7:10 (NLT) **For God can use sorrow in our lives**

To **help** us **turn away** from sin

And **seek salvation**. We will **never regret** that kind of sorrow.

But sorrow **without** repentance **is** the kind that **results** in **death**.

2 Cor. 7:10 (KJV) **For godly sorrow works repentance to salvation**

Not to be repented of: But the **sorrow** of the world **works** **death**.

Psalms 43:5 (NLT) **Why** am I discouraged? **Why** so sad?

I will put my hope **in God**! I will **praise him** again—

My **Savior** and my **God**!

Matthew 13:58 (NLT) **And so He did only a few miracles there**

Because of their unbelief.

2 Corinthians 7:8-10 (ESV) **For even if I made you grieve with my letter,**

I do not regret it---though I **did** regret it,

For I see that that letter **grieved** you, **though only for a while**.

⁹ As it is, I **rejoice**, not because you **were** grieved,

But **because** you were grieved into **repenting**.

For you **felt** a **godly** grief, so that **you suffered no loss** through us.

¹⁰ For **godly** grief produces a **repentance** that **leads to salvation** without regret,

Whereas **worldly** grief produces **death**.

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Job 1:6-12 (NLT) One day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord,

And Satan the Accuser came with them.

[7] "Where have you come from?" The Lord asked Satan.

And Satan answered the Lord,

"I have been going back and forth across the earth,

Watching everything that's going on."

[8] Then the Lord asked Satan,

"Have you noticed My servant Job?

He is the finest man in all the earth — A man of complete integrity.

He fears God and will have nothing to do with evil."

[9] Satan replied to the Lord,

"Yes, Job fears God, but not without good reason!

[10] You have always protected him and his home and his property from harm.

You have made him prosperous in everything he does.

Look how rich he is!

[11] But take away everything he has,

And he will surely curse You to your face!"

[12] "All right, you may test him, "The Lord said to Satan.

"Do whatever you want with everything he possesses,

But don't harm him physically." So Satan left the Lord's presence.

Deut. 8:5 (KJV) You shall also consider in your heart,

That, as a man chastens his son, so the Lord your God chastens you.

1 Peter 1:6-7 (NLT) So be truly glad! There is wonderful joy ahead,

Even though it is necessary for you to endure many trials for a while.

[7] These trials are only to test your faith,

To show that it is strong and pure.

It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—

And your faith is far more precious to God than mere gold.

So if your faith remains strong after being tried by fiery trials,

It will bring you much praise and glory and honor

On the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

Job 33:19-25 (NLT) Or God disciplines people with sickness and pain,

With ceaseless aching in their bones.

[20] They lose their appetite and do not care for even the most delicious food.

[21] They waste away to skin and bones.

[22] They are at death's door; the angels of death wait for them.

[23] "But if a special messenger from Heaven is there

To intercede for a person, to declare that he is upright,

[24] God will be gracious and say, 'Set him free.

Do not make him die, for I have found a ransom for his life.'

[25] Then his body will become as healthy as a child's, firm and youthful again.

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Job 36:21 (NLT) **Be on guard! Turn back from evil,**

For it was **to prevent you** from getting into a **life of evil**
That **God sent this suffering.**

Job 36:21 (KJV) **Take heed, regard not iniquity:**

For this have you chosen **rather than affliction.**

Hebrews 5:7-10 (NLT) **While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers**

And pleadings, with a loud cry and tears,
To **the One who could deliver Him out of death.**
And God heard His prayers
Because of His reverence for God.

[8] **So even though Jesus was God's Son,**

He learned obedience from the things he suffered.

[9] In **this way, God qualified Him as a Perfect High Priest,**

And **He became the Source of eternal salvation**

For all those who **obey Him.**

[10] **And God designated Him to be a High Priest in the line of Melchizedek.**

Exodus 15:26 (NLT) **"If you will listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God**

And **do what is right in His sight, obeying his commands and laws,**
Then I will not make you suffer **the diseases I sent on** the Egyptians;
For **I am the Lord who heals** you."

Matthew 13:58 (KJV) **And He did not many mighty works there**

Because of their **unbelief.**

1 Peter 1:3-7 (ESV) **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!**

According to **His great mercy,**

He has caused us to be **born again to a living hope through**
The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

⁴ To an **inheritance** that **is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,**

Kept in Heaven for you,

⁵ Who **by God's Power are being guarded** through **faith**

For a **salvation** ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ In **this** you **rejoice,** though now for a little while, if necessary, **you have been grieved**

By various trials (testing of our faith **by God** putting us in specific situations),

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.**

⁸ **Though you have not seen Him,** you **love him.**

Though you **do not** now see **Him,** you **believe in him**

And **rejoice** with **joy** that is **inexpressible and filled** with **glory,**

⁹ **Obtaining** the **outcome of your faith, the salvation** of your souls.

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Exodus 20:3-6 (KJV) You shall have no other gods before Me.

[4] You shall not make unto you any graven image,

Or any likeness of any thing that is in Heaven above,

Or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

[5] You shall not bow down yourself to them, or serve them:

For I the Lord your God am a jealous God,

Visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third

And fourth generation of them that hate Me;

[6] And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me,

And keep My commandments.

Exodus 34:7 (NLT) I show this unfailing love to many thousands

By forgiving every kind of sin and rebellion.

Even so I do not leave sin unpunished, But I punish the children

For the sins of their parents to the third and fourth generations."

James 1:12 (KJV) Blessed is the man that endures temptation:

For when he is tried, He shall receive the crown of life,

Which the Lord has promised to them that love him.

James 1:12 (NLT) God blesses the people who patiently endure testing.

Afterward they will receive the crown of life

That God has promised to those who love him.

1 Peter 4:19 (NLT) So if you are suffering according to God's will,

Keep on doing what is right,

And trust yourself to the God who made you,

For He will never fail you.

James 1:12-18 (ESV) Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial,

For when he has stood the test he will receive

The crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God,"

For God cannot be tempted with evil,

And He himself tempts no one.

¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin,

And sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above,

Coming down from the Father of lights

With Whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

¹⁸ Of His own will he brought us forth by the word of Truth,

That we should be a kind of first fruits of His creatures.

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1 Kings 21:17-24 (NLT) **But the Lord said to Elijah, who was from Tishbe,**

[18] "Go down to meet King Ahab, who **rules in Samaria.**

He **will be** at Naboth's vineyard in Jezreel, **taking possession** of it.

[19] Give him **this message:**

'This is what the Lord says: Isn't killing Naboth bad enough?

Must you rob him, too? Because you have done this,

Dogs will lick your blood outside the city

Just as they licked the blood of Naboth!' "

[20] "So my enemy has found me!" Ahab exclaimed to Elijah."Yes," Elijah answered,

"I have come **because you have sold yourself to what is evil**

In **the Lord's sight.**

[21] **The Lord is going to bring disaster to you and sweep you away.**

He will not let a single one of your male descendants,

Slave or free alike, **survive** in Israel!

[22] **He is going to destroy your family as he did** the family of Jeroboam son of Nebat

And the family of Baasha son of Ahijah,

For you have made **Him very angry and have led all of Israel into sin.**

[23] **The Lord has also told** me that the **dogs** of Jezreel

Will **eat** the body of your wife, **Jezebel**, at the city wall.

[24] The members of your family who **die** in the city **will be eaten by dogs,**

And those who **die** in the field will be **eaten by vultures."**

1 Peter 4:12-19 (ESV) **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.**

¹⁴ **If you are insulted** for **the Name of Christ,**

You are **blessed,** because **the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon** you.

¹⁵ **But let none of you suffer** as a murderer

Or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.

¹⁶ Yet **if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed,**

But let him **glorify God** in **that Name.**

¹⁷ **For it is time for judgment to begin at** the **household of God;**

And if it begins with us,

What **will be the outcome** for those **who do not obey the gospel of God?**

¹⁸ And **"If the righteous is scarcely saved,**

What **will become** of the **ungodly** and the **sinner?"**

¹⁹ Therefore let those who **suffer** according to **God's will**

Entrust their souls **to a faithful Creator** while **doing good.**

Deut. 8:19 (NLT) **"But I assure you of this: If you ever forget the Lord your God**

And **follow other** gods, worshiping and bowing **down to them,**

You **will certainly be destroyed**

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Luke 13:1-5 (KJV) **There were present at that season some that told Him**

Of the Galilaeans, whose **blood** Pilate had **mingled** with their sacrifices.

[2] **And Jesus answering said unto** them,

Suppose you **that** these Galilaeans **were sinners** above all the Galilaeans,
Because they **suffered** such **things**?

[3] **I tell** you, **No**: but, **except** you **repent**, you shall all **likewise perish**.

[4] Or those eighteen, **upon** whom the **tower** in Siloam **fell**, and **slew** them,

Think you that they **were sinners** above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?

[5] **I tell** you, **No**: but, **except** you **repent**, you shall all **likewise perish**.

Deut. 5:7-9 (NLT) **“Do not worship any other gods besides Me.**

[8] " Do **not** make **idols** of any **kind**, whether in the shape of birds or animals or fish.

[9] **You must never** worship or **bow down** to **them**,

For I, the Lord your **God, am a jealous God**

Who will not share your affection with any **other** god!

I do not leave unpunished the **sins** of those who **hate me**,

But I punish the children for the **sins** of their parents

To the third **and** fourth generations.

1 Peter 2:8 (NLT) **And the Scriptures also say,**

"He is the Stone that makes people **stumble,**

The Rock that will make them **fall.**

They **stumble** because they **do not** listen to **God's word** or obey **it**,

And so they meet the fate that **has been** planned **for** them.

Deut. 8:2 (KJV) **And you shall remember all the way**

Which the Lord your God led you these forty years in the wilderness,

To **humble** you, and to **prove** you **to know** what was in your heart,

Whether you would **keep His commandments?** Or **not**.

1 Kings 13:4-6 (NLT) **King Jeroboam was very angry with the man of God**

For speaking against the altar.

So he pointed at the **man** and shouted, "**Seize** that man!"

But **instantly** the king's hand **became paralyzed** in that position,

And he **couldn't** pull it back.

[5] At the same time a wide crack appeared in the altar, and the **ashes poured** out,

Just as the man **of God had predicted in his message from the Lord.**

[6] The king **cried out** to the man **of God**,

"Please ask **the Lord** your **God** to **restore** my hand again!"

So the man **of God prayed** to **the Lord**,

And the king's hand **became normal** again.

Deut. 8:5 (NLT) **So you should realize that just as a parent disciplines a child,**

The Lord your **God disciplines** you **to help** you.

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John 9:1-3 (NLT) As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man

Who had been blind from birth.

[2] "Teacher," his disciples asked him, "Why was this man born blind?

Was it a result of his own sins or those of his parents?"

[3] "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered.

"He was born blind so the Power of God could be seen in him.

Daniel 9:11-12 (NLT) All Israel has disobeyed Your law and turned away,
Refusing to listen to Your voice.

"So now the solemn curses and judgments Written in
The law of Moses, the servant of God,

Have been poured out against us because of our sin.

[12] You have done exactly what you warned you would do against us and our rulers.

Never in all history

Has there been a disaster like the one that happened in Jerusalem.

Daniel 9:11-12 (KJV) Yes, all Israel have transgressed Your law, even by departing,

That they might not obey Your voice;

That is why the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is Written
In the law of Moses the servant of God,

Because we have sinned against Him.

[12] And He has confirmed his words, which he spoke against us,

And against our judges that judged us, By bringing upon us a great evil:

For under the whole Heaven

Has not been done as has been done upon Jerusalem.

James 1:2-4 (KJV) My brethren, Count it all joy

When you fall into divers temptations;

[3] Knowing this, that the trying of your faith works patience.

[4] But let patience have her perfect work,

That you may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

James 1:2-8 (ESV) Count it all joy, my brothers,

When you meet trials of various kinds,

³ For you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect,

That you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives

Generously to all without reproach (disapproval, disappointment),

And it will be given him.

⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts

Is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

⁸ He is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

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Job 2:3-7 (NLT) **Then the Lord asked Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job?**

He is the **finest** man in all the earth—a man of **complete integrity**.

He **fears God** and **will have nothing** to do with evil.

And he **has maintained** his **integrity**,

Even though you persuaded Me to harm him without cause."

[4] **Satan** replied to **the Lord**, "Skin for skin

—He blesses you **only** because **You bless** him.

A man will **give up** everything he has **to save** his life.

[5] But take **away** his **health**, **And he will surely curse you to Your face!"**

[6] "**All right**, do with him as **you** please," **the Lord said** to **Satan**.

"But spare his life."

[7] So **Satan** left **the Lord's presence**,

And **he** struck Job with a **terrible** case of **boils** from head to foot.

1 Kings 9:8-9 (NLT) **And though this Temple is impressive now,**

It will **become** an **appalling** sight for all who pass by.

They will **scoff** and ask,

'Why did the Lord do such terrible things to his land

And to **His Temple?'**

[9] **And the answer will be,**' because **His** people **forgot the Lord** their **God**,

Who brought their ancestors **out** of Egypt,

And they **worshiped other** gods instead.

That is why the Lord has brought all these disasters upon them. "

Luke 13:1-5 (NLT) **About this time Jesus was informed**

That Pilate **had murdered** some people from Galilee

As they were sacrificing at the Temple in Jerusalem.

[2] **"Do you think** those Galileans

Were worse sinners than **other** people from Galilee?" **He asked.**

Is that why they suffered?

[3] **Not at all!** And you will **also perish** unless **you turn from your evil ways**

And **turn to God.**

[4] And **what about** the eighteen men who **died** when the Tower of Siloam **fell** on them?

Were they the worst sinners in Jerusalem?

[5] **No, and I tell** you **again** **that unless you repent**, you will **also perish."**

Deut. 8:2 (NLT) **Remember how the Lord your God led** you through the wilderness

For forty years, **humbling** you and **testing** you

To prove your character, And to find out

Whether or not you would really **obey His commands.**

Deut. 8:19 (KJV) **And it shall be, if you do at all forget the Lord your God,**

And **walk after other** gods, and **serve** them, and worship **them**,

I testify **against** you this day **that you shall surely perish.**

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Proverbs 20:30 (NLT) **Physical punishment**

Cleanses away evil; **such discipline purifies** the heart.

Proverbs 20:30 (KJV) **The blueness of a wound**

Cleanses away evil: So do stripes the inward parts of the belly.

Proverbs 17:13 (NLT) **If you repay evil for good, evil will never leave your house.**

Proverbs 17:13 (KJV) **Whoever rewards evil for good,**

Evil shall not depart from his house.

Proverbs 6:12-15 (NLT) **Here is a description of worthless and wicked people:**

They **are** constant **liars**,

[13] **Signaling** their true intentions to their friends

By making signs with their eyes and feet and fingers.

[14] Their **perverted** hearts **plot** evil. **They stir up trouble** constantly.

[15] **But they will be destroyed** suddenly, **broken beyond** all hope of healing.

Proverbs 6:12-15 (KJV) **A naughty person, a wicked man,**

Walks with a forward mouth.

[13] He winks with his eyes, he speaks with his feet, he teaches with his fingers;

[14] **Frowardness** is **in** his heart, he **devises mischief** continually; he sows **discord**.

[15] Therefore shall his **calamity** **come** suddenly;

Suddenly shall he **be broken** without remedy.

Proverbs 24:30-34 (NLT) **I walked by the field of a lazy person,**

The vineyard of one **lacking** sense.

[31] **I saw that it was overgrown** with **thorns**.

It was **covered** with **weeds**, and its walls were **broken down**.

[32] Then, as I looked and **thought** about it,

I learned this **lesson**:

[33] A little **extra** sleep, a little **more** slumber, a **little** folding of the hands to rest—

[34] **And poverty will pounce on you like a bandit;**

Scarcity will attack you **like** an armed **robber**.

Proverbs 24:30-34 (KJV) **I went by the field of the slothful,**

And by the vineyard of **the man void** of understanding;

[31] And, look, it was **all grown over** with **thorns**,

And **nettles** had **covered** the face thereof,

And the stone wall thereof was **broken down**.

[32] **Then I saw, and considered it well:**

I looked upon it, and **received instruction**.

[33] Yet a little **sleep**, a little **slumber**, a **little folding** of the hands **to sleep**:

[34] **So shall your poverty come** as one **that is** in **pain**; and your **want** as an armed man.

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Proverbs 21:23 (KJV) Whoso keeps his mouth and his tongue
Keeps his soul from troubles.

Proverbs 21:23 (NLT) If you keep your mouth shut, you will stay out of trouble.

Proverbs 3:11-12 (KJV) My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord;
Neither be weary of His correction:

[12] For whom the Lord loves he corrects;
Even as a father the son in whom he delights.

Proverbs 3:11-12 (NLT) My child, don't ignore it when the Lord disciplines you,
And don't be discouraged when He corrects you.

[12] For the Lord corrects those he loves,
Just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights.

Mark 6:3-5 (KJV) Is not This the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James,
And Joses, and of Juda, and Simon?

And are not His sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

[4] But Jesus said unto them, a prophet is not without honour,

But in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.

[5] And He could there do no mighty work,

Save that He laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.

Mark 6:3-5 (NLT) He's just the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James,
Joseph, Judas, and Simon. And His sisters live right here among us."

They were deeply offended and refused to believe in Him.

[4] Then Jesus told them, "A prophet is honored everywhere

Except in his own hometown

And among his relatives and his own family."

[5] And because of their unbelief, He couldn't do any mighty miracles among them

Except to place His hands on a few sick people and heal them.

Joshua 23:14-16 (NLT) "Soon I will die, going the way of all the earth.

Deep in your hearts you know

That every promise of the Lord your God has come true.

Not a single one has failed!

[15] But as surely as the Lord your God has given you the good things he promised,

He will also bring disaster on you

if you disobey Him.

He will completely wipe you out from this good land he has given you.

[16] If you break the covenant of the Lord your God

By worshiping and serving other gods,

His anger will burn against you, and you will quickly be wiped out

From the good land He has given you.

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Joshua 5:6 (KJV) For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness,
Until all the people that were men of war,
Which came out of Egypt, were consumed,
Because they obeyed not the voice of the Lord:
Unto whom the Lord swore that he would not show them the land,
Which the Lord swore unto their fathers that he would give us,
A land that flows with milk and honey.

2 Kings 22:8-20 (NLT) "Go to the Temple and speak to the Lord for me
And for the people and for all Judah.
Ask Him about the words written in this scroll that has been found.
The Lord's anger is burning against us
Because our ancestors have not obeyed the Words in this scroll.
We have not been doing
What this scroll Says we must do."

[14] So Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam, Acbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah
Went to the newer Mishneh section of Jerusalem
To consult with the prophet Huldah.
She was the wife of Shallum son of Tikvah and grandson of Harhas,
The keeper of the Temple wardrobe.

[15] She said to them, "The Lord, the God of Israel, has spoken!
Go and tell the man who sent you,

[16] "This is what the Lord says: I will destroy this city and its people,
Just as I stated in the scroll you read.

[17] For My people have abandoned me and worshiped pagan gods,
And I am very angry with them for everything they have done.
My anger is burning against this place,
And it will not be quenched.'

[18] "But go to the king of Judah who sent you to seek the Lord and tell him:
This is what the Lord,
The God of Israel, says concerning the message you have just heard:

[19] You were sorry and humbled yourself before the Lord
When you heard what I said against this city and its people,
That this land would be cursed and become desolate.

You tore your clothing in despair
And wept before Me in repentance.
So I have indeed heard you, says the Lord.

[20] I will not send the promised disaster against this city until after you have died
And been buried in peace.

You will not see the disaster I am going to bring on this place.'
"So they took her message (message given to her by God) back to the king.

Proverbs 17:11 (ESV) An evil man seeks only rebellion,
And a cruel messenger will be sent against him.

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- 2 Kings 5:1-27 (NLT) **But his officers tried to reason with him and said, "Sir, If the prophet had told you to do some great thing, Wouldn't you have done it? So you should certainly obey him When he says simply to go and wash and be cured!"**
- [14] **So Naaman went down to the Jordan River and dipped himself seven times, As the man of God had instructed him. And his flesh became as healthy as a young child's, and he was healed!**
- [15] Then Naaman and his entire party **went back to find the man of God.** They stood before him, **and Naaman said, "I know at last that there is No God in all the world except in Israel. Now please accept my gifts."**
- [16] But Elisha **replied, "As surely as the Lord lives, which I serve, I will not accept any gifts."** And though Naaman **urged him to take the gifts, Elisha refused.**
- [17] **Then Naaman said, "All right, but please allow me to load two of my mules With earth from this place, And I will take it back home with me. From now on I will never again offer any burnt offerings Or sacrifices to any other god except the Lord.**
- [18] However, **may the Lord pardon me in this one thing.** When my master the king Goes **into** the temple **of** the god **Rimmon** to worship **there** And leans on my arm, **may the Lord pardon me when I bow, too."**
- [19] **"Go in peace," Elisha said. So Naaman started home again.**
- [20] **But** Gehazi, **Elisha's** servant, **said** to himself, "My master should not have let This Aramean get away **without accepting his gifts.** As surely As **The Lord lives, I will** chase after him and **get something from** him."
- [21] So Gehazi set off **after** him. **When Naaman saw him running after him,** He **climbed down** from his chariot **And went** to meet him. **"Is everything all right?" Naaman asked.**
- [22] "Yes," Gehazi said, **"but my master has sent me to tell you that two young prophets From the hill country of Ephraim have just arrived. He would like 75 pounds of silver and two sets of clothing to give to them."**
- [23] "By all means, take 150 pounds of silver," **Naaman insisted.** He gave him **two sets** of clothing, **tied up** the **money** in two bags, **And sent** two of his servants to **carry** the gifts for Gehazi.
- [24] **But when** they arrived **at** the hill, Gehazi **took** the **gifts** from the servants **And sent** the men back. Then he **hid** the **gifts** inside the house.
- [25] **When he went in** to his master, **Elisha asked him, "Where have you been Gehazi?" "I haven't been anywhere," he replied.**
- [26] But Elisha **asked** him, "Don't you **realize** that I **was there** in **spirit** **when Naaman Stepped down** from his chariot **to meet** you? **Is this the time to receive money** and clothing and olive groves And vineyards and sheep and oxen and servants?"
- [27] **Because** you have **done this,** you and your children and your children's children Will **suffer** from Naaman's **leprosy** forever." When Gehazi left the room, **He was leprous;** his skin **was** as **white** as **snow.**

Page # 24m / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Joshua 5:6 (NLT) **The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for forty years**

Until all the men who were old enough to bear arms
When they left Egypt had died.
For they had **disobeyed the Lord,**
And **the Lord vowed he would not** let them enter the land
He had sworn to give us—A land **flowing** with milk and **honey.**

Proverbs 17:3 (KJV) **The fining pot is for silver,**
And the furnace for gold: but **the Lord tries the hearts.**

Proverbs 17:3 (NLT) **Fire tests the purity of silver and gold,**
But the Lord tests the heart.

Proverbs 19:18 (KJV) **Chasten** (punishment for doing wrong) **your son while there is hope,**
And let not your soul spare **for his crying.**

Proverbs 19:18 (NLT) **Discipline your children while there is hope.**
If you **don't,** you will **ruin** their lives.

1 Kings 20:42-43 (NLT) **And the prophet told him, "This is what the Lord says:**
Because you have spared the man **I said must be destroyed,**
Now you must die in his place,
And your people **will die instead of his people."**

[43] So the king of Israel went home to Samaria **angry** and **sullen.**

1 Kings 20:42-43 (KJV) **And he said unto him, thus says the Lord,**
Because you have let go out of your hand
A man whom **I appointed to utter destruction,**
Therefore your life shall go for his life, **and** your people **for his people.**

[43] And the king of Israel went to his house heavy and **displeased,** and came to Samaria.

Hebrews 2:10 (KJV) **For it became Him, for whom are all things,**
And by Whom are all things,
In bringing many sons unto **glory,**
To make the Captain of their salvation Perfect through sufferings.

Exodus 34:6-7 (ESV) **The Lord passed before him and proclaimed,**

"The Lord, the Lord,
A God merciful and gracious, slow to anger,
And abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,

⁷ **Keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity** and transgression and sin,

But Who will by no means clear the **guilty,**
Visiting the iniquity of the fathers **on** the children
And the children's children, **to** the third and the fourth generation."

Page # 24n / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

1 Peter 2:8 (KJV) And a Stone of stumbling, and a Rock of offence,
Even to them which stumble at the Word, being disobedient:
Whereunto also they were appointed.

1 Samuel 16:14-16 (NLT) Now the Spirit of the Lord had left Saul,
And the Lord sent a tormenting spirit
That filled him with depression and fear.

[15] Some of Saul's servants suggested a remedy.

"It is clear that a spirit from God is tormenting you," they said.

[16] "Let us find a good musician to play the harp for you

Whenever the tormenting spirit is bothering you.

The harp music will quiet you, and you will soon be well again."

1 Samuel 16:14-16 (KJV) But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul,
And an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him.

[15] And Saul's servants said unto him,

Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubles you.

[16] Let our lord now command your servants, which are before you, to seek out a man,

Who is a cunning player on an harp:

And it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon you,

That he shall play with his hand, and you shall be well.

John 9:1-3 (KJV) And as Jesus passed by,

He saw a man which was blind from his birth.

[2] And His disciples asked him, saying,

Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

[3] Jesus answered, neither has this man sinned, or his parents:

But that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

2 Chron. 19:2 (NLT) Jehu son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him.

"Why should you help the wicked

And love those who hate the Lord?" he asked the king.

"What you have done has brought the Lord's anger against you.

2 Chron. 19:2 (KJV) And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him,

And said to king Jehoshaphat, should you help the ungodly,

And love them that hate the Lord?

Therefore is wrath upon you from before the Lord.

Hebrews 2:10 (NLT) And it was only right that God—who made everything

And for Whom everything was made—

Should bring His many children into glory.

Through the suffering of Jesus, God made him a perfect leader,

One fit to bring them into their salvation.

Page # 240 / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Proverbs 23:29-35 (NLT) **Who has anguish? Who has sorrow?**

Who is **always fighting**? Who is **always complaining**?

Who **has unnecessary bruises**? Who **has bloodshot** eyes?

[30] It **is** the **one who spends** long hours **in** the taverns,

Trying out new drinks.

[31] **Don't** let the sparkle and smooth taste of wine **deceive** you.

[32] For **in** the **end** it **bites like a poisonous** serpent; **It stings** like a viper.

[33] You **will see** hallucinations, and you **will** say **crazy** things.

[34] You **will stagger** like a sailor **tossed** at sea, **clinging to** a swaying mast.

[35] And you **will say**, "They hit me, but I **didn't** feel **it**."

I **didn't even** know **it** when they **beat** me up.

When will I wake up **so I can have another** drink?"

Proverbs 23:29-35 (KJV) **Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions?**

Who **has babbling**? Who **has wounds** without cause?

Who **has redness** of eyes?

[30] **They that tarry long at the wine**; they **that go** to **seek mixed** wine.

[31] **Don't** you **look upon** the wine when it is red,

When it gives his color in the cup, **when it moves** itself aright.

[32] **At the last** it **bites** like a **serpent**, **and stings like an adder** (venomous snake).

[33] Your eyes shall **behold** strange women,

And Your heart **shall utter perverse** things.

[34] Yes, you **shall be** as he that **lies down** in the midst of the sea,

Or as he that lies upon the top of a mast.

[35] They **have stricken** me, you shall say,

And I **was not** sick; they **have beaten** me,

And I felt it **not**: **when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.**

Romans 5:3-5 (KJV) **And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also:**

Knowing that tribulation **works patience**;

[4] And **patience, experience**; and **experience, hope**:

[5] And **hope makes** not ashamed; because **the love of God**

Is shed abroad in our hearts **by the Holy Ghost which is given unto** us.

Deut. 5:11 (KJV) **You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain:**

For the Lord will not hold him **guiltless** that **takes his name** in **vain**.

Romans 5:3-5 (NLT) **We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials,**

For we know that they are good for us—they **help** us **learn** to **endure**.

[4] And **endurance develops** strength of character **in** us,

And **character strengthens** our **confident** expectation of **salvation**.

[5] And **this expectation will** not disappoint us.

For we **know how dearly God loves** us,

Because **He has given** us **the Holy Spirit** to **fill our hearts with his love**.

Page # 24p / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

1 Peter 4:12-13 (NLT) **Dear friends, don't be surprised**

At the **fiery trials** you are **going through**,
As if something strange **were happening** to you.

[13] **Instead**, be very **glad**—Because these **trials**
Will **make** you **partners** with **Christ in his suffering**,
And afterward you will **have** the wonderful **joy** of **sharing His Glory**
When it is displayed to all the world.

1 Peter 4:12-13 (KJV) **Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial**

Which is to try you, as though some strange thing **happened unto** you:

[13] But **rejoice**, inasmuch as you are partakers **of Christ's sufferings**; That,
When His Glory shall be revealed,
You may be **glad** also **with exceeding joy**.

2 Tim. 3:12 (NLT) **Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus**
Will suffer persecution.

Hebrews 5:7-9 (ESV) **In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers**

And supplications, with loud cries and tears,
To **Him who was able** to save **Him from death**,
And He was heard because of his reverence.

⁸ **Although He was a Son**,
He learned obedience through what he suffered.

⁹ **And being made Perfect, He became the source** of **eternal** salvation
To all who obey Him,

Hebrews 5:7-9 (KJV) **Who in the days of his flesh,**

When He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying
And tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death,
And was heard in that He feared;

[8] **Though He were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered**;

[9] **And being made Perfect, He became the Author of eternal salvation**
Unto all them that obey Him;

Isaiah 38:17-20 (ESV) **Behold, it was for my welfare that I had great bitterness**;

But in love You have delivered my life

From the pit of destruction,

For You have cast all my sins **behind your back**.

¹⁸ For **Sheol** (the grave, place of the dead) **does not** thank **You**; death **does not** praise **you**;

Those who **go down** to the **pit** do **not** hope for **Your faithfulness**.

¹⁹ **The living, the living, he thanks You**, as I **do** this day;

The father makes **known** to the children **Your faithfulness**.

²⁰ **The Lord will save** me, and **we will play my music** on stringed instruments

All the days of our lives, **at the house of the Lord**.

Page # 24q / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Isaiah 9:8-21 (ESV) **The Lord has sent a word against Jacob,**

And it will fall on Israel;

⁹ **And all the people will know,** Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria,

Who **say in pride** and in **arrogance of** heart:

¹⁰ "The bricks **have fallen,** but we **will build with dressed stones;** the sycamores

Have been **cut down,** but we **will put** cedars in their place."

¹¹ **But the Lord raises** the adversaries of Rezin **against him,** and **stirs up** his **enemies.**

¹² The Syrians on the east and the Philistines on the west **devour** Israel with open mouth.

For all this **His anger has not** turned away,

And His hand is stretched out still.

¹³ **The people did not** turn to **Him who struck** them, **or inquire of** **the Lord of hosts.**

¹⁴ **So the Lord cut off from** Israel head and tail, palm branch and reed in one day---

¹⁵ The elder and honored man is the head,

And the prophet who **teaches lies** is the tail;

¹⁶ For those who **guide** this people **have been leading them astray,**

And **those who are guided by them** are **swallowed up.**

¹⁷ Therefore **the Lord does not** rejoice over their young men,

And has no compassion on their fatherless and widows;

For everyone is **godless** and **an evildoer,** And every mouth **speaks folly.**

For all this **His anger has not** turned away,

And His hand is stretched out still.

¹⁸ For **wickedness** burns **like** a fire; it **consumes** briars and thorns;

It kindles the thickets of the forest,

And they roll upward **in** a **column of smoke.**

¹⁹ **Through the wrath of the Lord of hosts** **the land is scorched,**

And the people **are like fuel** for the **fire;** no one spares another.

²⁰ They slice meat on the right, but are **still hungry,**

And they devour on the left, but **are not** satisfied;

Each **devours** the flesh **of** his own arm,

²¹ Manasseh devours Ephraim, and Ephraim devours Manasseh;

Together they are **against** Judah.

For all this **His anger has not** turned away,

And His hand is stretched out still.

Isaiah 38:17-20 (KJV) **Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but You have in love**

To my soul **delivered it** from the **pit of corruption:**

For You have cast all my sins **behind your back.**

[18] **For the grave cannot** praise **You,** death **can not** celebrate **you:**

They that **go down** into the **pit cannot** hope for **Your Truth.**

[19] The living, the living, he shall **praise You,** as I **do** this day:

The father to the children **shall make known** **Your Truth.**

[20] **The Lord was ready to save** me:

Therefore we **will sing** my **songs** to the stringed instruments

All the days of our life **in** the **house of the Lord.**

Page # 24r / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Isaiah 38:17-20 (NLT) **Yes, it was good for me to suffer this anguish,**

For You have rescued me from **death**

And have forgiven all my sins.

[18] For the dead **cannot** praise **You**; they **cannot** raise their voices in praise.

Those who **go down to destruction**

Can **no** longer hope in **Your faithfulness**.

[19] **Only** the living can **praise You** as I **do** today.

Each generation can make **known Your faithfulness** to the next.

[20] **Think of it—the Lord has healed** me!

I will **sing His praises with instruments every day of my life**

In the Temple of the Lord.

2 Tim. 3:12 (KJV) **Yes, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus**

Shall suffer persecution.

Isaiah 9:8-19 (NLT) **The Lord has spoken out against that braggart Israel,**

[9] And the people of Israel and Samaria **will soon discover it.**

In their **pride** and **arrogance** they **say,**

[10] "Our land lies **in ruins now**, but we **will** rebuild it **better than before.**

We **will** replace the broken bricks **with** cut stone,

The fallen sycamore trees **with** cedars."

[11] **The Lord will reply** to their **bragging by bringing Rezin's enemies,**

The Assyrians, **against** them—

[12] Along **with** Arameans from the east **and** Philistines from the west.

With bared fangs, they **will devour** Israel.

But even then **the Lord's anger will not be satisfied.**

His fist is still poised to strike.

[13] For after all **this punishment,**

The people **will** still **not repent** and turn to **the Lord Almighty.**

[14] Therefore, in a single day,

The Lord will destroy both the head and the tail,

The palm branch and the reed.

[15] The leaders of Israel are the head, and the **lying** prophets are the tail.

[16] For the leaders **of** the people **have led them down** the **path of destruction.**

[17] **That is why the Lord has no joy** in the young men

And no mercy on even the widows and orphans.

For they **are** all **hypocrites**, speaking **wickedness** with **lies**.

But even then **the Lord's anger will not be satisfied.**

His fist is still poised to strike.

[18] **This wickedness** is like a **brushfire.**

It burns not only briars and thorns **but** the forests, too.

Its burning sends up vast clouds of **smoke.**

[19] **The land is blackened by the fury of the Lord Almighty.**

The people **are fuel** for the **fire**, and **no one** spares anyone else.

Page # 24s / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Isaiah 9:8-19 (KJV) The Lord sent a word into Jacob,

And it has lighted upon Israel.

[9] And all the people shall know, even Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria,

That say in the pride and stoutness of heart,

[10] The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones:

The sycamores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars.

[11] Therefore the Lord shall set up the adversaries of Rezin against him,

And join his enemies together;

[12] The Syrians before, and the Philistines behind;

And they shall devour Israel with open mouth.

For all this His anger is not turned away,

But His hand is stretched out still.

[13] For the people turn not unto Him that smites them,

Neither do they seek the Lord of hosts.

[14] Therefore the Lord

Will cut off from Israel head and tail, branch and rush, in one day.

[15] The ancient and honorable, he is the head;

And the prophet that teaches lies, he is the tail.

[16] For the leaders of this people cause them to err;

And they that are led of them are destroyed.

[17] Therefore the Lord shall have no joy in their young men,

Neither shall have mercy on their fatherless and widows:

For every one is an hypocrite and an evildoer,

And every mouth speaks folly. For all this His anger is not turned away,

But His hand is stretched out still.

[18] For wickedness burns as the fire: it shall devour the briars and thorns,

And shall kindle in the thickets of the forest,

And they shall mount up like the lifting up of smoke.

[19] Through the wrath of the Lord of hosts is the land darkened, and the people

Shall be as the fuel of the fire: No man shall spare his brother.

Isaiah 33:1 (NLT) Destruction is certain for you Assyrians, who have destroyed

Everything around you

But have never felt destruction yourselves.

You expect others to respect their promises to you,

While you betray your promises to them.

Now you, too, will be betrayed and destroyed!

1 Peter 4:19 (KJV) Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God

Commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing,

As unto a faithful Creator.

Deut. 5:11 (NLT) “Do not misuse the Name of the Lord your God.

The Lord will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name.

Page # 24t / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Revelation 3:19-22 (ESV) Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline.

So be zealous and repent.

²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice

And opens the door, I will come in to him

And eat with him, and he with Me.

²¹ The one who conquers,

I will grant him to sit with me on my throne,

As I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.

²² He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

John 15:18-26 (ESV) "If the world hates you,

Know that it has hated Me before it hated you.

¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own;

But because you are not of the world,

But I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

²⁰ Remember the Word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.'

If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you.

If they kept My Word, they will also keep yours.

²¹ But all these things they will do to you on account of My Name,

Because they do not know Him who sent Me.

²² If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin,

But now they have no excuse for their sin.

²³ Whoever hates Me hates my Father also.

²⁴ If I had not done among them the works that no one else did,

They would not be guilty of sin,

But now they have seen and hated both Me and my Father.

²⁵ But the Word that is written in their law must be fulfilled:

'They hated Me without a cause.'

²⁶ "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father,

The Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father,

He will bear witness about Me.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (ESV) So to keep me from becoming conceited

Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations,

A thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me,

To keep me from becoming conceited.

⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

⁹ But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you,

For My Power is made perfect in weakness."

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses,

So that the Power of Christ may rest upon me.

¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, I am content

With weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities.

For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Page # 24u / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Hebrews 12:3-14 (ESV) Consider Him who endured from sinners

Such hostility against Himself,

So that you may **not** grow weary or fainthearted.

⁴ In your struggle against sin **you have not** yet resisted

To the point of **shedding** your **blood**.

⁵ And have you forgotten the **exhortation** that **addresses** you as **sons**?

"My son, **do not** regard lightly **the discipline of the Lord,**

Nor be weary **when reproved by Him.**

⁶ **For the Lord disciplines** the one **he loves,**

And chastises every son whom **he receives."**

⁷ It is **for discipline** that you **have** to **endure. God is treating** you as **sons.**

For what son is there whom his father **does not** discipline?

⁸ **If** you are left **without** discipline, **in which all have participated,**

Then **you are illegitimate children** and **not** sons.

⁹ Besides this, we **have had** earthly fathers who **disciplined** us

And we **respected** them.

Shall we not much more be subject to **the Father of spirits** and **live**?

¹⁰ For they **disciplined** us for a **short time** as it seemed **best** to them,

But He disciplines us for our **good,** that we **may share his holiness.**

¹¹ For the moment all discipline **seems painful** rather than pleasant,

But **later** it yields the **peaceful fruit of righteousness**

To those who have **been trained** by it.

¹² Therefore **lift** your drooping hands and **strengthen** your weak knees,

¹³ And **make straight** paths for your feet,

So that what is lame **may not** be put out of joint **but rather** be **healed.**

¹⁴ **Strive** for **peace with** everyone,

And **for** the **holiness** without which **no one will see the Lord.**

Romans 5: 1-9 (ESV) Therefore, since we **have been justified by faith,**

We have **peace** with **God through** our **Lord Jesus Christ.**

² **Through Him** we have also **obtained** access by **faith into this grace**

In which we **stand,** and we **rejoice** in **hope of the Glory of God.**

³ More than that, **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.

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

⁷ For **one will scarcely die** for a righteous person---

Though perhaps for a **good person one would dare** even to die---

⁸ **But God shows his love for** us **in** that while we were **still sinners,**

Christ died for us.

⁹ Since, therefore, we have **now** been **justified** by **His blood,** much more

Shall we be **saved by Him** from **the wrath of God.**

Page # 24v / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Romans 8:12-17 (ESV) So then, brothers, we are debtors, **not to the flesh,**

To live according **to** the **flesh**.

¹³ For **if** you **live** according **to** the **flesh** you **will die**,

But if **by** **the Spirit** you **put** to **death** the deeds of the body, **you will live**.

¹⁴ For **all** who are **led** by **the Spirit of God** are **sons of God**.

¹⁵ For you **did not** receive the **spirit** of slavery

To **fall back** into fear,

But **you have received** **the Spirit of adoption as** sons,

By Whom we **cry**, "**Abba! Father!**"

¹⁶ **The Spirit himself bears witness with** our spirit **that we are children of God**,

¹⁷ And if children, then **heirs---heirs of God** and fellow **heirs** with **Christ**,

Provided we suffer with **Him**

In order that we may **also** be **glorified** with **Him**.

2 Chronicles 21:12-15 (ESV) **And a letter came to him from Elijah the prophet,**

Saying, "**Thus says the Lord, the God of** David your father,

'Because you **have not** walked **in** **the ways of Jehoshaphat your father,**

Or in the **ways** of Asa king of Judah,

¹³ But **have** walked **in** the **way** of the kings of Israel and **have enticed** Judah

And the inhabitants of Jerusalem **into whoredom**,

As the house of Ahab **led** Israel **into whoredom**,

And also you **have killed** your brothers,

Of your father's house, **who were better than yourself**,

¹⁴ Behold, **the Lord will bring a great plague on** your people, your children,

Your wives, **and** all your possessions,

¹⁵ And you yourself **will have a severe sickness** with a **disease** of your bowels,

Until your bowels **come out** because **of** the **disease**, day by day.'"

Psalms 119:63-73 (ESV) **I am a companion of all** who **fear You**,

Of those who **keep Your precepts**.

⁶⁴ The earth, **O Lord, is full of your steadfast love**; teach me **your statutes!**

⁶⁵ **You have dealt well with** your servant, **O Lord**,

According to **Your word**.

⁶⁶ Teach me **good judgment** and **knowledge**, for I believe **in Your commandments**.

⁶⁷ **Before I was afflicted** I went **astray**,

But **now** I **keep Your word**.

⁶⁸ **You are good and do good**; teach me **your statutes**.

⁶⁹ The insolent (to grow haughty or prideful) **smear** me **with** lies,

But **with** my whole heart I **keep Your precepts**;

⁷⁰ Their heart **is** unfeeling **like fat**, but I **delight** in **Your law**.

⁷¹ **It is good for me that I was** afflicted, that I might **learn Your statutes**.

⁷² **The law of Your mouth** is **better** to me **than** thousands of gold and silver pieces.

⁷³ **Your hands have made and fashioned** me; **Give me understanding**

That I may **learn Your commandments**. (Verses continued on page 24w)

Page # 24w / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Psalms 119:74-75 (ESV) (continuation from page 24v) Those who fear You shall see me
And **rejoice**, because I have hoped **in Your word**.

⁷⁵ I **know**, O Lord, that **your rules are righteous**,
And that **in faithfulness You have afflicted** me.

Rev. 3:19-22 (NLT) **I am the One who corrects and disciplines** everyone **I love**.
Be **diligent** and turn **from your indifference**.

[20] "Look! **Here I stand at the door and knock**.

If you hear **Me calling** and **open** the door, **I will come in**,
And **we will share a meal** as friends.

[21] **I will invite** everyone who is **victorious** to **sit with me on my throne**,
Just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne.

[22] Anyone who is **willing to hear**
Should **listen to the Spirit**
And understand what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

2 Chronicles 19:1-3 (ESV) **Jehoshaphat the king of Judah**

Returned in safety to his house in Jerusalem.

² But Jehu the son of Hanani the **seer**

Went out to meet him and **said** to King Jehoshaphat,
"Should you **help** the **wicked** and **love** those who **hate** **the Lord**?
Because of **this, wrath has gone out against** you **from the Lord**."

³ Nevertheless, **some good** is found **in** you,
For you **destroyed** the Asherahs **out** of the land,
And have set your heart to seek God."

Psalms 119:67-76 (NLT) **I used to wander off until You disciplined me**;

But **now** I closely **follow Your word**.

[68] **You are good and do only good**; teach me **your principles**.

[69] **Arrogant** people have **made** up **lies** about me,

But **in Truth** I obey **Your commandments** **with all my heart**.

[70] Their hearts **are dull** and **stupid**, but I **delight** in **Your law**.

[71] **The suffering You sent** was **good** for me,

For it taught me to **pay attention** to **Your principles**.

[72] **Your law** is more **valuable** to me **than** millions in gold and silver!

[73] **You made** me; **you created** me. Now **give** me the **sense** to follow **your commands**.

[74] May all who **fear You** find in me a **cause for joy**,

For I have put my hope in Your word.

[75] I **know**, O Lord, that **your decisions are fair**;

You disciplined me **because I needed it**.

[76] Now let **Your unfailing love** comfort me, **just as you promised** me, **your** servant.

Eccles. 5:12 (NLT) **People who work hard sleep well**, whether they eat little or much.

But the rich **are** always **worrying** and **seldom** get a good night's sleep.

Page # 24x / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Numbers 21:4-9 (ESV) From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea,
To go around the land of Edom.

And **the people became impatient** on the way.

⁵ And the people spoke **against God** and **against** Moses,
"Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness?
For **there is** no food and no water,
And we **loathe this** worthless food."

⁶ **Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among** the people, **and they bit** the people,
So that **many** people of Israel **died**.

⁷ And the people **came** to Moses and **said**, "We have **sinned**,
For we have spoken against the Lord and **against** you.
Pray **to the Lord**, that

He take away the **serpents** from us." So Moses **prayed** for the people.

⁸ **And the Lord said to** Moses, "Make a **fiery serpent** and **set it on a pole**,
And everyone who **is bitten**, when he **sees it**, shall **live**."

⁹ **So Moses made a bronze serpent** and **set it** on a pole. And **if a serpent bit** anyone,
He would **look** at the **bronze serpent** and **live**.

Romans 8:16-17 (ESV) **The Spirit himself bears witness with** our spirit

That we are children of God,

¹⁷ And if children, then **heirs---heirs of God** and fellow **heirs** with **Christ**,
Provided **we suffer with Him**
In **order** that we may **also be glorified** with **Him**.

Mark 9:49 (ESV) **For everyone will be salted with fire**.

Mark 9:49 (NLT) **"For everyone will be purified with fire**.

Judges 16:1-5 (ESV) **Samson went to Gaza, and there he saw a prostitute**,

And he **went in to her**.

² The Gazites were told, "Samson **has come** here." And they surrounded the place
And **set** an **ambush** for him all night at the gate of the city.
They kept quiet all night, saying,
"Let us wait till the light of the morning; **then we will kill him**."

³ But Samson lay till midnight, **and at midnight he arose**
And **took** hold of the **doors** of the **gate** of the city and the two posts,
And **pulled** them **up**, bar and all, and put them on his shoulders
And carried them to the top of the hill that is in front of Hebron.

⁴ **After this he loved** a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose **name** was **Delilah**.

⁵ And the lords of the Philistines **came** up to **her** and **said** to **her**,
"**Seduce him**, and see **where** his great strength lies,
And **by what means we may overpower him**,
That we **may bind** him to **humble** him.
And we **will** each **give you 1,100 pieces** of silver." (Story continued on 24y)

Page # 24y / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Judges 16:6-18 (ESV) (Continuation of story from 24x) **So Delilah said to Samson,**

"Please tell me **where your great strength lies,**

And **how you might be bound,** that one **could subdue** you."

⁷ Samson **said to her,** "**If they bind** me with seven fresh bowstrings
That have not been dried,

Then I shall become weak and be like any other man."

⁸ **Then** the lords of the Philistines **brought up** to her seven fresh bowstrings
That had not been dried, and **she bound** him with them.

⁹ Now **she had** men **lying in ambush** in an inner chamber. And **she said** to him,
"The Philistines **are upon** you, Samson!" **But he snapped** the bowstrings,
As a thread of flax snaps when it touches the fire.
So the **secret of his strength** was **not** known.

¹⁰ Then **Delilah said** to Samson, "Behold, you have **mocked me** and **told me lies.**
Please **tell me how you might be bound.**"

¹¹ And he **said to her,** "**If they bind** me with new ropes that have not been used,
Then I shall become weak and be like any other man."

¹² So **Delilah took** new ropes and **bound** him with them and **said** to him,
"The Philistines **are upon** you, Samson!"
And the men **lying in ambush** were in an inner chamber.
But he snapped the ropes off his arms **like** a thread.

¹³ Then **Delilah said** to Samson, "Until **now** you have **mocked me** and **told me lies.**
Tell me how you might be bound." And he **said to her,**
"**If you** weave the **seven locks** of my head with the web
And **fasten** it tight with the pin,
Then I shall become weak and be like any other man."

¹⁴ So **while** he **slept, Delilah took** the seven locks of his head
And **wove** them into the web. And **she made** them **tight** with the pin
And **said** to him, "The Philistines are **upon** you, Samson!"
But he **awoke** from his sleep **And pulled away** the pin,
The loom, and the web.

¹⁵ And **she said** to him, "**How can you say, 'I love you,'** when your heart is **not** with **me?**
You have **mocked me** these **three** times,
And you have not told me where your **great strength lies.**"

¹⁶ And **when** she **pressed** him **hard** with **her words** day after day, **and urged** him,
His soul was **vexed** to **death.**

¹⁷ **And he told her all his heart,** and **said to her,** "A razor **has never** come **upon** my head,
For I have **been** a **Nazirite** to **God** from my mother's womb.
If my head is shaved, then my strength will leave me,
And I shall become **weak** and **be like** any other man."

¹⁸ **When Delilah saw** that he **had told her** all his heart, **she sent**
And **called** the lords of the Philistines, saying, "**Come up** again,
For he **has told me** all his heart."
Then the lords of the Philistines **came up to her**
And brought the money in their hands. (Story continued on page 24z)

Page # 24z / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Judges 16:19-31 (ESV) (Continuation of story from 24y) She made him sleep on her knees.

And she called a man

And had him shave off the seven locks of his head.

Then she began to torment him, and his strength left him.

²⁰ And she said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!"

And he awoke from his sleep and said,

"I will go out as at other times and shake myself free."

But he did not know that the Lord had left him.

²¹ And the Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes

And brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze shackles.

And he ground at the mill in the prison.

²² But the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god

And to rejoice, and they said,

"Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand."

²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said,

"Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country,

Who has killed many of us."

²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, "Call Samson,

That he may entertain us." So they called Samson out of the prison,

And he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars.

²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand,

"Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests,

That I may lean against them."

²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there,

And on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women,

Who looked on while Samson entertained.

²⁸ Then Samson called to the Lord and said, "O Lord God, please remember me

And please strengthen me only this once, O God,

That I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes."

²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested,

And he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one

And his left hand on the other.

³⁰ And Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines."

Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords

And upon all the people who were in it.

So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those

Whom he had killed during his life.

³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up

And buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb

Of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

Mark 9:49 (KJV) For every one shall be salted with fire,

And every sacrifice shall be salted with salt.

Page # 24ba / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Psalms 31:9-10 (ESV) **Be gracious to me, O Lord,**

For I am **in distress**; my eye is **wasted** from **grief**;

My soul and my body also.

¹⁰ For my life is **spent** with **sorrow**, and my years **with sighing**;

My **strength fails** because **of** my **iniquity**, and my bones **waste away**.

1 Corinthians 11:17-34 (ESV) **But in the following instructions**

I do not commend you, because when you come together

It is **not** for the better **but for** the **worse**.

¹⁸ For, in the first place, **when you come together as a church**,

I hear **that there are divisions** among you. And I believe it in part,

¹⁹ For there **must be factions** among you

In order that those **who are genuine** among you **may be recognized**.

²⁰ When you come together, it is **not the Lord's** supper that you eat.

²¹ For **in eating**, each one **goes ahead** with his own meal. One **goes hungry**,

Another **gets drunk**.

²² **What!** Do you **not have** houses **to eat** and **drink in?**

Or do you despise the **church of God**

And **humiliate** those who **have nothing? What shall I say to you?**

Shall I commend you in **this? No**, I will **not**.

²³ For I **received from the Lord** what I **also delivered** to you,

That the Lord Jesus on the night **when he was betrayed** **took** bread,

²⁴ **And when He had given thanks, he broke** it, **and said**,

"This is My body which is for you. **Do this in remembrance of me."**

²⁵ In the same way also **He took** the **cup**, after supper, **saying**, **"This cup is**

The New Covenant in My blood.

Do this, as often as you drink it, **in remembrance of Me."**

²⁶ For as **often** as you **eat this** bread and **drink** the **cup**,

You proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷ Whoever, therefore, **eats** the **bread** or **drinks** the **cup of the Lord**

In an **unworthy** manner

Will be guilty concerning the **body and blood of the Lord**.

²⁸ **Let a person examine** himself, **then**,

And **so eat of** the **bread** and **drink of** the **cup**.

²⁹ For anyone who **eats** and **drinks** **without** discerning the **body**

Eats and drinks **judgment on** himself.

³⁰ That **is why** many of you are **weak** and **ill**, and some **have died**.

³¹ But **if we judged** ourselves **truly**, we **would not** be judged.

³² **But when** we **are judged by the Lord**,

We are **disciplined**

So that we may not be condemned **along with** the world.

³³ So then, my brothers, **when you come together** to eat, **wait** for one another---

³⁴ **If anyone is hungry**, let him **eat at home---**

So that when you **come together** it will **not be for judgment**.

Page # 24bb / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

1 Thes. 4:6-8 (NLT) **Never cheat a Christian brother in this matter**

By **taking** his wife, **for the Lord avenges** all such **sins**,

As we have **solemnly** (seriously) **warned** you before.

[7] **God has called us to be holy**, not to live impure lives.

[8] Anyone who **refuses** to live by these **rules is not** disobeying human rules

But is **rejecting God, who gives his Holy Spirit to** you.

John 16:33 (ESV) **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."

1 Corinthians 10:1-17 (ESV) (Warning Against Idolatry) **For I want you to know, brothers,**

That our fathers **were** all **under** the **cloud**,

And **all passed** through the sea,

² And all **were baptized** into Moses **in** the **cloud** and in the sea,

³ And all **ate** the **same Spiritual food**,

⁴ And all **drank** the **same Spiritual drink**. For they **drank from the Spiritual Rock**

That **followed** them, **and the Rock was Christ**.

⁵ Nevertheless, **with most of them God was not pleased**,

For they **were overthrown** in the wilderness.

⁶ Now **these things** took place **as examples** for us,

That **we might not desire evil** as they **did**.

⁷ **Do not be idolaters** as some of them **were; as it is written**,

"The people sat down to eat and drink and **rose up** to **play** (sexual sin)."

⁸ **We must not indulge in sexual** immorality **as** some of them **did**,

And twenty-three thousand **fell** in a single day.

⁹ **We must not** put **Christ** to the **test**, as some of them **did**

And **were destroyed by serpents**,

¹⁰ **Nor grumble**, as some of them **did** and **were destroyed by the Destroyer**.

¹¹ Now **these things** happened to them as **an example**,

But they **were written down for our instruction**,

On whom the **end of the ages** has **come**.

¹² Therefore let anyone who **thinks** that he stands **take heed** lest he fall.

¹³ **No temptation has overtaken you** that is **not common** to man. **God is faithful**,

And He will not let you be tempted **beyond your ability**,

But **with** the **temptation He will also provide** the **way** of **escape**,

That you **may be able to endure it**.

¹⁴ Therefore, my beloved, **flee from idolatry**.

¹⁵ I **speak as to** sensible people; **judge** for yourselves **what** I say.

¹⁶ The **cup of blessing** that we **bless**, **is it not a participation** in **the blood of Christ?**

The **bread** that we **break**,

Is it not a participation in the body of Christ?

¹⁷ Because there is **one bread**, we who are many **are one body**,

For we **all partake** of the **one bread**.

Page # 24bc / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

- Judges 11:27-40 (ESV) **I therefore have not sinned against you,**
And you **do me wrong** by **making war** on me. **The Lord, the Judge,**
Decide this day between the people of Israel
And the people of Ammon."
- ²⁸ But **the king of the Ammonites did not listen** to the **words of Jephthah**
That he **sent** to him.
- ²⁹ (Jephthah's Tragic Vow) **Then the Spirit of the Lord was upon** Jephthah,
And he passed through Gilead and Manasseh
And passed on to Mizpah of Gilead,
And from Mizpah of Gilead he passed on to the Ammonites.
- ³⁰ And **Jephthah made a vow** to **the Lord** and **said,**
"If **You will give** the Ammonites **into** my hand,
- ³¹ **Then whatever comes out from the doors of my house to meet me**
When I return in peace from the Ammonites **shall be the Lord's,**
And I will offer it up for a **burnt offering."**
- ³² So Jephthah crossed over to the Ammonites **to fight against** them,
And the Lord gave them **into** his hand.
- ³³ And he **struck** them from Aroer **to** the neighborhood of Minnith, **twenty cities,**
And as far as Abel-keramim, **with a great blow.**
So the Ammonites **were subdued before** the people of Israel.
- ³⁴ Then Jephthah **came to his home** at Mizpah.
And behold, **his daughter came out to meet him** with tambourines
And **with dances.** She was his **only** child;
Besides her he had neither son nor daughter.
- ³⁵ And **as soon** as he **saw** her, he **tore** his clothes **and said,** "Alas, my daughter!
You have **brought me very low,**
And you **have become the cause of great trouble to me.**
For I **have opened my mouth to the Lord,**
And I cannot take back my vow."
- ³⁶ And she **said** to him, "My father, you **have opened** your mouth **to the Lord;**
Do to me according to what has gone out of your mouth, now that
The Lord has avenged you **on your enemies, on the Ammonites."**
- ³⁷ So she **said** to her father, "**Let this thing be done for me:**
Leave me alone two months,
That I may go up and **down on the mountains**
And **weep for my virginity,** I and my companions."
- ³⁸ So he **said,** "Go." Then he **sent her away for two months,** and she **departed,**
She and her companions,
And **wept for her virginity on** the mountains.
- ³⁹ And at **the end** of two months, she **returned to** her father,
Who **did with her according to his vow** that he **had made.**
She had **never known** a man, and **it became a custom** in Israel
- ⁴⁰ That the daughters of Israel **went year by year**
To **lament** the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite **four days in the year.**

Page # 24bd / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

- 1 Thessalonians 4: (A Life Pleasing to God) **Finally, then, brothers,**
We ask and **urge** you **in the Lord Jesus,**
That as you **received from** us how you **ought to walk** and to **please God,**
Just as you **are doing,** that you **do so** more and **more.**
- ² For you **know** what **instructions** we gave you **through the Lord Jesus.**
- ³ **For this is the will of God,** your **sanctification:**
That you abstain from sexual **immorality;**
- ⁴ That each one of you **know how to control** his own body **in holiness** and **honor,**
- ⁵ **Not in the passion of lust**
Like the Gentiles who do not know God;
- ⁶ That **no one** transgress and wrong his brother **in this matter,**
Because **the Lord is an avenger** in all these things,
As we **told you beforehand**
And **solemnly warned** you.
- ⁷ **For God has not called** us for impurity, but **in holiness.**
- ⁸ Therefore whoever **disregards this,** disregards not man **but God,**
Who gives his Holy Spirit to you.
- ⁹ **Now concerning brotherly love** you have **no need** for anyone to write to you,
For you yourselves have been **taught by God**
To **love one another,**
- Acts 13:4-12 (ESV) **So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit,** they went down to Seleucia,
And **from there they sailed to** Cyprus.
- ⁵ **When they arrived at** Salamis, **they proclaimed the word of God**
In the synagogues of the Jews. And they **had** John to **assist** them.
- ⁶ When they **had gone through** the whole island **as far as** Paphos,
They **came upon** a certain **magician,**
A Jewish **false** prophet **named** Bar-Jesus.
- ⁷ **He** was **with** the **proconsul,** Sergius Paulus, **a man of intelligence,** who **summoned**
Barnabas and Saul and **sought to hear the word of God.**
- ⁸ But Elymas the **magician** (for that is the meaning of his name) **opposed** them,
Seeking to turn the proconsul away from the **faith.**
- ⁹ But Saul, who was also called Paul, **filled with the Holy Spirit,**
Looked intently at him
- ¹⁰ And **said,** "You son **of the devil,** **you enemy of all righteousness,**
Full of all deceit and villainy,
Will you **not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord?**
- ¹¹ And **now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon** you,
And you will be blind and **unable** to see the sun **for a time."**
Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him,
And he **went about** seeking people **to lead him by** the hand.
- ¹² Then the **proconsul believed,**
When he saw what had occurred,
For he **was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.**

Page # 24be / Why do we, or others have to suffer?

Jeremiah 2:5-13 (ESV) **Thus says the Lord:** "What wrong did your fathers find in me

That they went far from Me,

And went after worthlessness, and became worthless?

⁶ They did not say, 'Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt,

Who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits,

In a land of drought and deep darkness,

In a land that none passes through, where no man dwells?'

⁷ And I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and its good things.

But when you came in,

You defiled My land and made my heritage an abomination.

⁸ The priests did not say, 'Where is the Lord?' Those who handle the law

Did not know Me;

The shepherds transgressed against Me;

The prophets prophesied by Baal

And went after things that do not profit.

⁹ "Therefore I still contend with you, declares the Lord, and with your children's

Children I will contend.

¹⁰ For cross to the coasts of Cyprus and see, or send to Kedar

And examine with care; see if there has been such a thing.

¹¹ Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods?

But My people have changed their Glory for that which does not profit.

¹² Be appalled, O Heavens, at this; be shocked,

Be utterly desolate, declares the Lord,

¹³ For My people have committed two evils:

They have forsaken Me, the Fountain of Living waters,

And hewed (carved) out cisterns (wells for catching water) for themselves,