

Suffering Before Glory

(04/15/17)

Rom 8:29- Conformed to the image of His Son

- I. **1 Pet 1:11**- Christ suffering was always to proceed the final glorification
 - A) **John 17:5-6**- “Glorify me with the glory I had before the world was”
 - 1) **John 17:22**- “Glory given Me I have given them”
 - i. If it is the same glory, then suffering proceeds final glorification
 - ii. **Rom 8:29**- “Conformed to His image” (suffering and then glory)
 - a) **Rom 8:17-18**- Suffering then glory
 - b) **Phil 2:5-10**- “Let this mind be in you”
 1. The practical distance between us and Christ is infinite, but the spiritual distance has been bridged, and we are to submit to being “conformed to His image”
 2. **Phil 1:6**- We must 1st lay hold of this concept by faith to begin the transformation
 3. **Phil 3:20-21**- The ultimate goal is to be made like Christ at His coming, the intermediate goal is to be “being made like Him” now
 4. **2 Pet 1:3-11**- We must believe we have been made partakers of the divine nature, and this transformation is not only possible, but that it is God’s will
 - (a) **1 Thess 4:1-7**- This is God’s will, even your sanctification
 - (1) We all too often want the glory and yet desire no part in His suffering
 - (2) **2 Cor 4:13**- Believe and so speak, the suffering will follow
 - (3) **Matt 5:11-12**- Blessed are ye when men speak evil and revile you
 - (4) **Matt 10:32-38**- Confess me and I will confess you
 - **John 12:42**- Fear to confess belief on Him
 - Compare Nicodemus and the Samaritan Woman
 - B) **1 John 3:1-3**- It doth not yet appear, but we shall be like Him in glory
 - 1) **Phil 3:10**- We are to be “being made like Him now”
 - i. **2 Cor 3:18**- We are changed into the same image from glory to glory
 - ii. **Rom 8:29**- “Firstborn among many brethren”
 - iii. **Rom 12:1-2**- Present conformity to Christ
 - C) **John 18:11**- “The cup given Me, shall I not drink it?”
 - 1) This is the very question we need each ask ourselves
 - i. **John 15:19-20**- If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you
 - ii. **John 16:33**- In this world tribulation

- iii. **Acts 9:16**- The great things Paul must suffer
- iv. **Acts 14:22**- Must tribulation before entering the Kingdom of God
- 2) Practical holiness now/practical perfection then
 - i. **1 Pet 4:12-16**- Suffering result in glorification, same as Christ will be glorified for eternity through His suffering
 - a) **2 Cor 4:8-5:5**- Sufferings produce glorification in resurrection
 - b) **1 Pet 2:11-12**- Good works to be seen
 - c) **1 Pet 2:18-23**- Christ suffered as an example for us
 - 1. We are never more like Christ than when we suffer for His name patiently
 - d) **Matt 5:16**- Let your light shine and good works be seen
- II. **Rom 16:25-26**- We are called to the “Obedience of faith”
 - A) **1 Pet 1:2-8**- Sanctification unto obedience (**Eph 2:10**- “unto good works”)
 - 1) 1st Chosen, 2nd sanctification of the Spirit, 3rd obedience and sprinkling, 4th glory
 - 2) **2 Thess 2:13-14**- Same order
 - 3) **Rom 8:29-30**- Same order
- III. We are a wedding present to Christ
 - A) **John 17:6 & 23**- For God so loved Him, He gave Him a bride
 - B) **John 3:16**- For God so loved the world, He gave us a Groom
 - 1) **Matt 3:17**- Christ is altogether lovely and perfect, and we were altogether filthy and corrupt
 - i. The bride would be the foulest (**Isa 64:6**) and yet become the fairest of all (**Rev 19:7-8**)
 - ii. **Rom 7:4**- And yet this should not be only a future hope, but a present reality
 - a) **1 Thess 4:7**- We have not been called to uncleanness, and to presume upon the grace of God is to be as a filthy woman, who when betrothed to the King, refuses to act as His betrothed, and desires still to wallow in filth
 - C) His glory is the brides dowry
 - 1) **John 17:5 + 1 Pet 1:21 + John 17:21**
 - 2) **Rom 8:32**- How shall He not freely give us all things
 - i. We are sons with the Son, heirs with the Heir, kings with the King and priests with the High Priest
 - 3) **Phil 3:10-16**- We ought each one of us desire to serve Christ in such a way, that we are always striving with some to further sanctification while reaching behind us and pulling others to a higher glory
 - i. Goal: To long to be like Him in love and care currently is far better than to long for the future glory. To desire to be able to go among a group of

creatures, and to live among them in such a way as to always love them and desire only their well-being so that they magnify the Lord for being able to make a brother like Himself