

— Romans 8.17 —
Romans Series 45
Suffering and Glory

Romans 8.16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

* **“Suffering”** ties us to _____, on the one hand, and _____ on the other. Christ’s sufferings were the path to his _____. Christ’s path as savior was unique (e.g., atoning death), but his path as Son is the path every _____ of God is called to walk, which is what vs 17 is about.

Phil 2.6 ... although He existed in the form of God, [He] did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped [clutched], 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW ... 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

* **There is** no _____ in suffering just to suffer. But there is _____ in doing what is right even when it hurts; overcoming temptation even when it’s hard; believing God even when you’re mocked; or walking with God even when you’re persecuted.

Col 2.18 Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement ... 23 These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but are of no value against fleshly indulgence.

Mat 5.10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

* **The book** of _____ helps us, for walking with God through hardship is one of its major themes.

Heb 2.10 For it was fitting for Him [the Father], for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

* **The Greek** word “perfect” means for something to be completed by reaching its _____ or purpose. It doesn’t mean it started out flawed or sinful, only undeveloped.

Luke 2.51 He ... was subject to [his parents] ... 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

* **This same** maturation process applies to _____.

Heb 2.11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren

Heb 5.8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

* **“Learn[ing] obedience”** doesn’t mean Jesus learned to obey instead of disobey, it means Jesus _____ obedience by showing it in the face of hardship & temptation.

Heb 5.7 ... [He] offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear ... 9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,

* **What is** the “sin which so easily ensnares us”?

Heb 12.1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ... 3 ... lest you become weary and discouraged ...

* **In 2Cor 11.23-29**, Paul lists hardships he experienced, including (1) _____, open hostility, or threat & danger of the same; (2) physical _____, such as hunger, thirst, lack of sleep, being without proper clothing or shelter, being subject to cold & exposure or difficult & dangerous travels; (3) hard & grueling _____, and pressure from the same; (4) worry, concern, & _____ over the things

already mentioned or over people you care about. All of these things tend to discourage us & make us weary. It seems like God isn’t _____ us, and doesn’t _____ us. But in truth, God is completely involved, completely in _____, and completely loving us. But he is loving us as a Father to sons, which means he is sending us whatever it takes to make us all that we _____.

Heb 12.7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?

* **The Greek** word “chasten” means to _____, and it includes everything involved in a complete course of intensive _____.

* “God deals with you as with sons,” in Heb 12.7, is quoting Deut. ____, where Moses explains that the hardships & trials were designed to reveal what was in their _____ (2).

* **Three lessons** Moses says God was training into Israel are:

(1) God is the source of _____, and therefore central to life is God, his _____, and his _____.

Deut 8.3 He ... let you be hungry, and fed you with manna ... that he might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but ... by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord ...

John 4.32 “I have food that you don’t know about ... 34 My food is to do the will of him who sent me.”

Mat 4.3 Now ... the tempter ... said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” 4 But He ... said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”

(2) God in love trains us as his own _____, which is why he calls us to walk with him thru hardship, trial, & temptation.

Deut 8.5 You should know in your heart that as a man chastens [trains] his son, so the LORD your God chastens [trains] you.

(3) Every good thing in life is the _____ of God, and comes from his hand, even though he may give it to us thru other means, such as by blessing our labors.

Deut 8.10 When you have eaten and are satisfied ... 11 [b]eware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments ... 12 otherwise ... 14 ... your heart will become proud and you ... 17 ... [will] say in your heart, ‘My power ... made me this wealth.’ 18 But you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who is giving you power to make wealth”

* **These 3** lessons are essential to _____ life as it really is. Then, you add all the wisdom lessons of _____, which are needed to put the polish on the apple, so to speak.

Prov 3.11 My son, do not despise the chastening [training] of the LORD, Nor detest His correction; 12 For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights.

* **To pull** all these threads together into a single picture, think of _____ training. There are lots of instruction, motivation, correction, but also the requirement of performing under tough, unpleasant circumstances.

Heb 12.11 Now no chastening [training] seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

* **When you** are finished, you look back with great satisfaction, but it isn’t fun at the time. But you know it’s good, so you _____, remembering that you’re in training, that those in charge know what they’re doing, and that it’s for your good.

Heb 12.1 ... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us ... 7 ... God deals with you as with sons ...

* **Our ultimate** example is _____.

Heb 12.2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

* **The word** “author” comes from *arche*, the word we get “archetype” from. And “perfecter” is from *telos*, our goal and purpose word again. Jesus is not just the _____ of our faith as savior; he is also the _____ of our faith as Son. Jesus did not have faith in a _____, for he did not need one. But as the perfect Son, he perfectly _____ his Father, he perfectly _____ his Father’s word, he perfectly _____ on his Father’s promises, and he perfectly _____ his Father’s will. Those same virtues are expected of us as children of God. If we want to inherit and be glorified with Jesus, we must walk the path of faith and obedience in the face of hardship and affliction. We must let God make us all that we can be, for that is what he does with his sons and daughters.