

## **The Immense Blessings of Suffering**

1 Peter, Hebrews

April 19, 2015

1. Christ's Sufferings Brought Us To God 1 Peter 3:18  
1 Pet 1:18-19  
The suffering was all about the precious blood of Christ.
2. Christ's Suffering Leaves Us An Example 1 Pet 2:20-21
3. Christ's Suffering Enables Him To Help Us Heb. 2:17-18
4. Christ's Suffering Taught Him Obedience Heb. 5:8

But here is the key: WE HAVE TO BEGIN TO VIEW SUFFERING AS A MEANS OF IMMENSE BLESSING BY GOD! Which probably means for most of us, we have to relearn how we think about suffering.

1. YOUR FAITH IS BEING TESTED AND THAT IS PRECIOUS TO GOD  
1 Peter 1:7
2. YOUR FAITH WILL RESULT IN PRAISE AND HONOR AND GLORY  
1 Peter 1:7
3. SUFFERING IS A GRACIOUS GIFT FROM GOD (PHILIPPIANS 1:29)  
2:19-21
4. SUFFERING DONE RIGHT BRINGS THE BLESSING (FAVOR) OF GOD  
3:14-17
5. SUFFERING CAUSES US TO HAVE VICTORY OVER SIN  
4:1
6. SUFFERING PRODUCES GOD'S BLESSING ALONG WITH GOD'S SPIRIT RESTING ON YOU  
4:13-14

How should we respond to suffering then in light of the blessing of suffering?

1. Rejoice - 1:6, 8; 4:13 James 1:2, Romans 5:3-5
2. Have the mind of Christ - 4:1
3. Entrust your soul to the faithful Creator – 3:19
4. Do Good – 3:19
5. Resist the devil firm in your faith, understanding the same sufferings are going on in all the world – 4:9