**RISE UP** in 2021

July 4, 2021

Brian Hummel, *Executive Pastor*

***ALL WE NEED***

A Study in the Book of Colossians  
***A Purpose Driven Suffering***

Colossians 1:24-2:5



What makes you happy? What causes you to rejoice?

A purpose filled life is a happy life.

*Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of His body, that is, the church…*

*Colossians 1:24*

Christ suffered to accomplish salvation; we suffer to spread salvation.

Christ’s affliction was ‘perfect’ in that it accomplished salvation, but our mission is to display what He accomplished through our suffering.

Our suffering is part of our mission.

Suffering comes in many different forms, but Paul here writes specifically about suffering in an effort to reach others.

*Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one.  Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.*

*2 Corinthians 24-28*

*“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

*Matthew 5:11-12*

Our pain is a megaphone to the world around us.

Are you willing to suffer for others? How far will you go for another?

Our strength, especially during suffering, comes from Jesus Christ.

*For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.*

*Colossians 1:29*

*But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”*

*2 Corinthians 12:9*

There is stability and freedom in the call to suffer for the sake of others.

*Christ in you, the hope of glory*.

*Colossians 1:27b*

Stability – from being thrown off when suffering comes

*For when we were with you, we kept telling you beforehand that we were to suffer affliction, just as it has come to pass, and just as you know. For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and our labor would be in vain.*

*1 Thessalonians 3:4-5*

Freedom – to choose suffering when love calls us to

Who are you willing to suffer for?

*…the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery…*

*Colossians 1:26-27a*

*Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.*

Colossians 1:28

When one suffers, we all suffer.

*For the body does not consist of one member but of many…. If one member suffers, all suffer together*

1 Corinthians 12:14 & 26a

Stand firm in the truth

*Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.*

*Colossians 2:6*

*I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments..*

*Colossians 2:4*

Keep your eye on the prize.

*But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 3:13b-14*

*Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake… to make the word of God fully known,*

*Colossians 1:24 & 25b*

Will you use your freedom to “be happy” ... or to happily suffer?