

MZRF BIBLE STUDY

July, 2017 - Summer

Suffering in the Body of Christ

And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him (John 9:1-3).

Purpose/Objective

The purpose/objective of this study is to simply explore through the Word of God the different forms and aspects of suffering, why God allows suffering and how Christians should respond to suffering.

- 1. Explore the four issues the disciples' question exposed**

- 2. What is Suffering**

- 3. Positive Causes for Suffering**
 - a. God's Power and Glory be magnified
 - b. God's Discipline
 - c. Spiritual Growth and Maturity
 - d. Persecution by World
 - e. Identification with our Lord Jesus
 - f. Purification
 - g. Test our Profession and Faith

- 4. Negative Causes for Suffering**
 - a. **SIN** (Iniquity, Error and Transgression – Abomination)
 - b. Generations curse (Sins of parents and grandparents)
 - c. Mistakes and Carelessness of Others
 - d. Ignorance (Foolishness, Stubborn self-will, Pride and Arrogance)
 - e. Reap what you Sow

- 5. What should be our Response in Midst of Unfavorable Season**

- a. Bow and Worship God
- b. Examine Yourself
- c. Don't be Surprised
- d. Rejoice for these reasons (privilege, reward and Spirit of God)
- e. Entrust yourself to absolute WILL of God
- f. Put up a fierce resistance against (Anxiety, Fear, Murmuring-why me, Anger, Discouragement,)
- g. Study and Pray more Earnestly
- h. Prepare to meet Thy God

6. Various Forms and Dimensions of Suffering

- a. Character molding and Preparation
- b. Reproach and lack of respect and appreciation
- c. Sin
- d. Persecution
- e. Evil finger
- f. God's Glory
- g. Hard life
- h. Hatred and Rejection