

# SUFFERING

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Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. Those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

*1 Peter 4:12–16, 19*

Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

*2 Corinthians 4:17*

When God has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

*Job 23:10*

Those who suffer God delivers in their suffering; he speaks to them in their affliction.

*Job 36:15*

## ***Job 36:15—What Job Teaches about Suffering***

Job affirms that God is not deaf to our cries and is in control of this world no matter how it looks. God did not answer all Job's questions, but his very appearance caused Job's doubts to melt away. Job learned that God cared about him and that God rules the world.

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My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my life, O LORD.

*Psalm 119:50*

Jesus said, "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

*John 16:33*

There was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

*2 Corinthians 12:7-10*

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has

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stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

*James 1:2-4, 12*

The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

*1 Peter 5:10*

For a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

*1 Peter 1:6-7*

Do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. However, if you suffer as a