

Hebrews 5.5-8

Suffering in the Calling

I. PRIEST FOREVER –

a. His calling is without repentance –

Hebrews 11.28-36

- i. The job is often difficult
- ii. The job is often painful
- iii. His callings will often lead through the darkest holes and deepest waters

b. The calling originates with God

c. He came FOR this specific purpose. His purpose IS His calling –

- i. He Became our priest forever
- ii. Standing between us and the wrath of God
- iii. Imputing our sin to His account
- iv. Imputing His righteousness to ours

d. Begotten

i. The Son of God –

John 3.16

Luke 1.35

ii. in the flesh

1John 4.1-3

1. Other errors are out there
2. This is a pattern of specific truth
3. Denying the truth of the rest of scripture is the pattern of false teachers
4. Check EVERYTHING you are told against the rest of scripture, ALONE.

Scripture is our only test of truth. We do not judge the word against people's opinion. But the other way round.

iii. Jesus is not a created being but the second person of the Eternal Godhead

Philippians 2.5 -11

- iv. He knew what He was signing up for, yet there was still pain and struggle for Him.

II. SUFFERING AS SONS

The pain and suffering we endure when fulfilling His calling is not indicative of His anger, but rather, His acceptance of us as sons.

Hebrews 12.3-11

- a. At least in part, this is why it is important for us to rightly understand the truth of the incarnation. God in Christ demonstrated what the life here should be as one of us. Many times, we seem to think that we deserve something better than Jesus.
 - i. Both as example and as prize
 - ii. He cannot be surpassed as the great reward, and yet so often we live as if we want

something more than Jesus... there IS NOTHING MORE!!!

- b. God could have removed Jesus from the path of death
 - i. He was heard by God
 - ii. Jesus cast Himself on God alone,

III. GOD SUSTAINS

God will sustain us and honors us when we obey His will

- a. God will show Paul how much he must suffer for His name –

Acts 9.15-16

- b. The 7 letters to the churches **ALL** promised suffering and urged faithfulness in the midst of trial and loss

- i. Ephesus - the loveless church
Revelation 2:3 - and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary.
- ii. Smyrna - the persecuted church
Revelation 2:10 - Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw *some* of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.
- iii. Pergamos - the compromising church
Revelation 2:13 - "I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne *is*. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas *was* My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.
- iv. Thyatira - the corrupt church
Revelation 2:25 - But hold fast what you have till I come.
- v. Sardis (the dead church)
Revelation 3:2–3 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die,

for I have not found your works perfect before God. Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

vi. Philadelphia - the faithful church

Revelation 3:10 - Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

vii. Laodicea - the lukewarm church

Revelation 3:21 - To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

c. The Lord Himself promised persecution and hatred of the world –

John 15.18-26

IV. GOD TEACHES –

The things which God teaches us are more important than our temporary happiness or freedom from pain and sorrow. –

a. Know the love of God in Christ

Romans 8.28-39

b. Trained to have the peaceable fruit of righteousness

Hebrews 12.11

c. Tribulation brings hope

Romans 5.1-5

d. Ultimately shapes us for Christ's presence –

2Peter 1.5-11