



For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but <u>also to suffer for him.</u>

PHILIPPIANS 1:29



ISAIAH 55:8-9

⁸"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord.
⁹"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.



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WHERE IS GOD IN THE SUFFERING?



MARK 5:24-34

²⁴So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. ²⁵And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. ²⁶She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse.

²⁷When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." ²⁹Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

MARK 5:24-34

³⁰At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

³¹"You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" ³²But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it.

³³Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. ³⁴He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

1 JESUS SEES SUFFERING



He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.

ISAIAH 53:3a



God whispers to us in our pleasures,

speaks in our consciences,

but shouts in our pains.

C.S. LEWIS



SUFFERING LEADS US TO TRUST IN AND RELY ON JESUS MORE



3 JESUS WILL BRING AN END TO **SUFFERING**

REVELATION 21:3-5

³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." ⁵He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.

ROMANS 8:18



JESUS IS RIGHT THERE WITH US

