



Cherrequine Bible Doctrine Ministries

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PREVENTIVE SUFFERING

There are three major categories of suffering for blessing for spiritually adult believer, and each suffering for blessing is consequent and inseparable from specific spiritual stage. In this study, we are not going to deal with stages of spiritual maturity. Full details of spiritual maturity will be discussed in Bible doctrine Book 4.

SPIRITUAL STAGE	SUFFERING FOR BLESSING
SPIRITUAL SELF-ESTEEM	PREVENTIVE SUFFERING
SPIRITUAL AUTONOMY	MOMENTUM SUFFERING
SPIRITUAL MATURITY	EVIDENCE SUFFERING

Suffering for blessing is the exclusive domain of the spiritually advancing and mature believer. Spiritual maturity is the stage of spiritual life where the believer possesses maximum doctrine in the soul with spiritual capacity for application. Spiritual adulthood is just the beginning of normal Christian life under the divine operating system.

Each suffering for blessing is designed for accelerating the spiritual advance of the believer inside the divine power system. Each suffering for blessing has its own intensity, emphasis, and level of blessings.

PREVENTIVE SUFFERING is the first category of suffering for blessing that carry out two important purposes. In the offensive role, preventive suffering accelerates the believer's spiritual advance beyond spiritual self-esteem into spiritual autonomy. In defensive role, preventive sufferings prevent the advancing believer from becoming victim of arrogance. Spiritual self-esteem is probably the most vulnerable stage of the Christian life because the believer begins to think for himself and live by the Bible doctrine resident in his soul. But the advancing believer is always in danger of distorting his newfound spiritual liberty. He may assume that his strength comes from self rather than from God's Word and divine power system. As he warms up his new spiritual muscles and enjoys the results of spiritual growth, he may forget that God is the source of growth and advancement.

God in His grace does not wait for the believer to fail. Rather than picking the up the pieces, God provides the means of keeping the believer from falling apart. God takes the preventive action by sending suffering for blessing. The Preventive suffering reminds the adult believer of his dependence on the Plan of God and forces him to use divine assets under circumstances that human ability cannot resolve.

Naturally, human dynamics enabled man to advance rapidly within an evil system, but only through divine resources and assets inside the divine power system a believer can advance in the spiritual life.

Since suffering for blessing is designed to accelerate the momentum of the believer, Satan seizes the opportunity to destroy the believer through the same suffering that God uses to bless the believer.

And because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me to keep me from exalting myself! (2 Corinthians 12:7)

God permits Satan to send his demons to torment, harass, and disturb the adult believer under suffering for blessing. God is totally able to care for His children because divine provisions are far superior to any suffering Satan may afflict the believer.

In grace God is able to make even our enemies benefit us. He uses them to accelerate our spiritual advance and channel of blessings (Psalm 76:10). Inside the divine sphere, the mature believers are not untouchable (since God allows the Satan and the cosmic believer to ambush them), yet they are unbreakable. Nothing can destroy the spiritually mature believer except his negative volition.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us?
(Romans 8:31)

The term "us" in this verse refers only to spiritually matured believer who by grace of God and consistent intake of Bible doctrine maybe able to crack the immaturity barrier and reached adult status. Reaching spiritual adulthood is not the end but just the beginning of the normal Christian functions leading to the "greater things" of the super and surpassing grace status.

Satan by all means will prevent the advance of every believer in the Plan of God. He will interrupt the believer from following the Protocol Plan. He will disturb the believer's reception, perception, and assimilation of Bible doctrine. If the believer succeeded in his progressive and systematic intake of doctrine, Satan will see to it that such believer will fail to apply the doctrine, so that he will be disciplined by God.

Satan wanted to destroy the believer who will be forced to rely on God; at the end the only loser will be the devil. God uses Satan's attack to keep the adult believer from falling into the same pattern of arrogance that originally caused the fall of Satan. The genius of God uses marvelous finesse to let Satan defeat himself. God is not hurting his children but has devised perfect ways to bless them.

The omnipotent God has the power to turn suffering into blessing, and this power has been made available to us through residence and function in the divine power system. God can use adversity to our advantage even pressures that our foes have designed to harm us.

In all suffering for blessing the subject believer will suffer intensely and God will not relieve the pain but will display His preeminence. Underneath the severely suffering believer will be the everlasting arms of the Lord. The suffering believer as a result will love the Lord much more than before. The suffering believer will increase his personal love to God. The positive response of the believer to love and appreciate the Lord is never instant but the result of prolonged study of Bible doctrine.

The victory of the believer over the preventive suffering is never automatic but dependent on three solid factors:

- Bible doctrine in the soul
- Residence inside the divine sphere or power system.
- Utilization of divine resources

The advancing believer may resolve to apply human solutions to his problem. Every time the believers apply human solution, it will be bad decision that will bring misery and discipline. The spiritually adult believer is provided with every kind of resources necessary to win every undeserved suffering that may go along. Spiritual defeat is never from God but from negative volition of the believer to stay in the cosmic system. Man will continue to be free and responsible for every decision that he going to make. Every bad decision from position of weakness would mean miseries and divine discipline from the justice of God, while every good decision from position of strength would mean blessings from the justice of God.