"Satisfaction in Suffering" (Part 4)

05071PET2.21a(58)

1 Peter 2:21a

18 Servants, submit yourselves to your masters with all fear. Not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are perverse. 19 For this [finds] favor, if out of consciousness toward God, one endures pain when suffering unjustly. 20 For what good would it be if, when you sin and are roughly treated, you endure it? But if you should suffer for doing good and endure it, this finds favor with God. 21 For you have been called for this [purpose], since Christ also suffered on your behalf, leaving for you an example so that you might follow in His steps. 22 who committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth.

23 Who while being reviled, was not reviling in return; while suffering was not uttering threats, but he kept entrusting [Himself] to the One who always judges righteously. 24 He who bore our sin in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wound you have been healed. 25 For you were straying like sheep, but now you have been turned back by the shepherd and overseer of your souls.

 1 Peter 2:18-25, As translated from the Greek New Testament by T. Bartolucci.

Introduction

- * Three things we noted back in 1:6
 - 1) Suffering is:
 - 2) Suffering is:
 - 3) Suffering is:

For us a crown of thorns must come before the crown of gold.

I. Servants are to Submit Themselves to their Masters (18)

"We are slaves of the Suffering Servant who are to strive for satisfaction in our sufferings since He suffered for us. ."

- II. God Blesses us when we Suffer well (19-20)
 - A. What it means to suffer well:
 - 1. Suffering well means that we rest in God's <u>Providence</u> (18b)
 - 2. Suffering well means that we Worship God in our suffering (18a & 19a)
 - 3. Suffering well means that we suffer for <u>Righteousness</u> sake (19b-20)

III. We have been Sovereignly Called by God to Suffer Well (21a)

<A.> The concept of "calling" in Scripture

<1.> Two kinds of calling (both are seen in 1 Corinthians 1:23-24):

23 but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness, 24 but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. [NAS]

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For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. – 2 Corinthians 4:6 [NAS]

- A. We can be satisfied with suffering because Christ suffered for us (21b)
 - 1. We have a God who has experienced suffering!
 - 2. It was necessary for Christ to suffer
 - 3. Suffering is the means by which we receive our final reward even as it was the means by which Christ received His
 - a. Christ suffered for us!
 - (1) The imputation of Christ's active obedience includes His suffering

Conclusion