#### What's Suffering?

- It is simply ongoing pain or hardship experienced
- Pain in this world is to be expected as a disciple of Christ John 16:33
- Job's life is a great example of suffering
- The big question is why do we suffer?
- We suffer because the world has been tainted with sin and it's not perfect
- It isn't until we get through the valleys that we can appreciate the mountain tops

#### Matthew 27:28-29 – Jesus is Our Example

- Jesus suffered for us
- He was our example to follow after
- Jesus submitted to the will of the Father
- Jesus didn't retaliate when people persecuted him
- While in suffering, Jesus didn't say much
- He was willing to suffer for our behalf
- Jesus's submission was not a sign of his weakness but a sign of his strength

# John 9:1-3, Luke 8:43-48, Matthew 14:14, John 5:1-15 – Jesus Healings

- These stories are everywhere in the gospels
- The blind, the paralyzed, the leper, the sick and the biggest of all, sin
- These are people who are suffering, and Jesus came for them –Matthew 1:21
- His goal wasn't to heal the physical ailments but the soul
- Jesus continued to bring hope to the broken hearted Luke 19:10

#### Matthew 5:10-12 – What To Do In Persecution

- Persecution is different than suffering
- There is a conflict between Christians and the world John 15:19-20
- Why? Because we are different than the world, so there will be differences

# **Jesus Teachings on Suffering**

3/5/25

Page 14

- Persecution, actions taken against us. It is inevitable for anyone who calls themselves a Christian Matthew 10:22
- When persecution comes, know that you're doing it for the sake of Christ
- Jesus, calls anyone who is persecuted, **blessed**
- Our hope and strength doesn't come from men but from God John 15:5

## Mark 8:34-38 – The Extent of Suffering And Persecution

- One must repent and believe to follow Christ
- Because of that decision, the by product is denying ourselves
- Whatever comes our way, Jesus says "Follow me" Mark 8:34
- No one has ever enjoyed suffering
- Denying yourself is a daily obligation to continually do
- We come out of trials and suffering stronger

#### The Rest of Scripture

- James 1:2-4
- Romans 5:3-5
- 1 Peter 4:12-19
- Revelation 21:4
- 1 Peter 5:10
- Hebrews 2:10
- Romans 8:18
- Philippians 1:29
- James 1:12

## **For Further Study**

1 Corinthians 10:13, Psalm 22, 1 Peter 3:14-17, Psalm 34:19, 2 Timothy 3:12, Philippians 3:12, 2 Corinthians 1:3-5, Isaiah 53: 1-5, Romans 8:35, 1 Peter 2:21, Colossians 1:24, Acts 14:22, Hebrews 12:11, Matthew 16:21-23 and 2 Cor. 4:17