

## The Baptism of Suffering

*“(v1) Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, (v2) **Of the doctrine of baptisms,**<sup>1</sup> and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. (v3) And this will we do, if God permit (Hebrews 6:1-3).”<sup>2</sup>*

The Baptism of Suffering begins with your daily walk with the Lord and you will immediately encounter opposition from Satan. This purification through suffering brings about a fleshly subjection in bringing your temple to the Lord and works in conjunction with the third baptism, The Baptism of Blood [Sanctification-Holiness]. Hebrews 10:32-39 states, *“(v32) But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; (v33) Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used. (v34) For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance. (v35) Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. (v36) For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. (v37) For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. (v38) Now the just shall live by faith: but if [any man] draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. (v39) But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.”* Jesus walked by faith and pleased the Father and you will learn to walk by faith to please Him too! Hebrews 1:6 confirms this, *“But without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]:...”* The above verses explain that once you’ve received the light (the truth of the gospel of salvation; you’ve become ‘born-again’, experienced the New Birth) and that you will begin to fight

affliction—but not to be discouraged or cast away your confidence in the power of Jesus Christ to deliver you, but have patience so that God’s perfect will can be worked in you, *“But let **patience have [her] perfect work**, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing (James 1:4).”*

What is affliction? It is trouble, tribulation, calamity, catastrophe, disaster, a state of great suffering and distress due to adversity,<sup>3</sup> *“Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you (I Peter 4:12):”* The word, ‘fiery’, in this verse comes from the Greek root word, ‘purosis, {poo’-ro-sis}’ meaning, ‘calamities or trials that test the character’.<sup>4</sup> Jesus suffered for us and we are not greater than He is, *“(v16) Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him; (v20) Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord, If they have persecuted [caused to suffer] me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also (John 13:16; 15:20).”* It was necessary for Jesus to suffer in order to fulfill prophecy, *“(v9) But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. (v10) For it became him, for whom [are] all things, and by whom [are] all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. (v11) For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified [are] all one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, (v12) Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church and I will sing praise unto thee. (v13) And again, I will put my truth in him. (v14) Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; (v15) And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject*

*to bondage. (v16) For verily he took not on [him the nature of] angels; but he took on [him] the seed of Abraham. (v17) Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto [his] brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things [pertaining] to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. (v18) For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted (Hebrews 2:9-10, 18).”*

Suffering for Christ’s sake and suffering for something you did wrong is distinctly different. Don’t be confused! James 1:13-15 tells us that when we are tempted that we are not tempted of God because He does not tempt man; however, it does tell us we are tempted because we let our own lust draw us away from God, and of course, when we go for what we want, we get into trouble and if not corrected it can lead to destruction.

Why do we suffer? We learn obedience to God in the things that we suffer. Jesus’ flesh had no advantage over us. His flesh learned just as we learn obedience through suffering to the Father, *“(v7) Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; (v8) Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; (v9) And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; (v10) Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec (Hebrews 5:7-10).”* Jesus’ temple was brought back to perfection through His suffering that He might become the perfect sacrificial Lamb in offering Himself through death to become just for the unjust, *“For as by one man’s disobedience [Adam’s disobedience] many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one [Jesus] shall many be made righteous (Romans 5:19).”*

Paul had fellowship with Christ and he carried the proof of his suffering in his natural body, *“(v10) Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus; that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. (v11) For we which live*

<sup>1</sup> Underline, bold and [brackets] used for emphasis throughout tract.

<sup>2</sup> All Scripture References are quoted from the King James Version.

<sup>3</sup> Referenced from: [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com)

<sup>4</sup> Referenced from: [www.blueletterbible.org](http://www.blueletterbible.org)

are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. (v12) So then death worketh in us, but life in you (II Corinthians 4:10-12).” Paul understood The Baptism of Suffering for he told us in Philippians 3:10-11, “(v10) That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; (v11) If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.”

We have fellowship with Christ who suffered for us, “(v1) Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; (v2) That he no longer should live the rest of [his] time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God. (v13) But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. (v14) If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy [are ye]; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified (I Peter 4:1, 13-14).” Suffering helps you to crucify your carnal nature (sin nature) and brings you to the place where you can be chosen by God, “Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction (Isaiah 48:10).”

Paul also understood that his ministry was to the Gentiles and that the Word of God that had been revealed unto him was for Christ's body, the Church and he suffered for that knowledge, “Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: (Colossians 1:24)” You will pay a price for knowing the revelation of Jesus Christ and His other body, the Church.

Peter encouraged us regarding suffering for Christ's sake and he explained what suffering would do for us, “(v8) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: (v9) Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren

that are in the world. (v10) But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle [you] (I Peter 5:8-10).”

Don't be confused by people or ministries that teach, 'to suffer in your flesh or spirit is a sin'. The Word of God makes it plain to you that you **will suffer** if you are a disciple of Jesus Christ. You have to count the cost, “(v27) And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. (v28) For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have [sufficient] to finish [it]? (v29) Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish [it], all that behold [it] begin to mock him, (v30) Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish (Luke 14:27-30).”

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## The Seven Baptisms



The Baptism of  
**REPENTANCE**

▶ The Baptism of  
**SUFFERING**

The Baptism of  
**BLOOD**

The Baptism of  
**THE HOLY GHOST**

The Baptism Into  
**THE BODY**

The Baptism of  
**FIRE**

The Baptism of  
**DEATH**