

Making Sense of Suffering

Life at the Boiling Point: When Faith Gets Tested

II Corinthians 1:3-11
Pastor Jim Hottenstein
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Suffering can be embraced with joy due to:

1. The presence of Christ. (II Corinthians 1:3-4)

“The Jews, schooled in the Old Testament, had a saying: ‘Where Messiah is, there is no misery.’ After Jesus, you could change that saying to: ‘Where misery is, there is the Messiah.’”

Philip Yancey “Where is God When it Hurts?”
Christianity Today, June 2007, p. 56

2. The comfort of others. (II Corinthians 1:4)

3. Dependency upon Christ. (II Corinthians 1:9b)

“You’ll never know that God is all you need until God is all you’ve got.”

The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren,
Copyright ©2002 by Rick Warren, p. 194

4. **The glory of God. (II Corinthians 1:11)**
5. **Longing for Heaven. (II Corinthians 1:8-9;
Philippians 1:20-23)**

“If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.”

Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis, Copyright ©1980
C.S. Lewis Pte. Ltd., pp 136-137

“Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you get neither.”

Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis, Copyright ©1980
C.S. Lewis Pte. Ltd., pp 134

“For those who love God, nothing irredeemable can happen to you.”

Dallas Willard quoted by Philip Yancey “Where is God When it Hurts?” *Christianity Today*, June 2007, p. 58