

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **1Peter 2:18-25; Isaiah 53:1-6.**
- B. 1Peter 2:18 and 19:
  - 1. We are to obey our earthly masters whether they be good or bad.
  - 2. If we suffer because of them we are to be submissive.
  - 3. We endure suffering because of our consciousness of God.
- C. Slaves are to be obedient to their masters and not by way of just eye-service (Eph. 6:5,6).
- D. But our lesson today focuses on finding favor with God by our sufferings.

## I. SUFFERING FOR RIGHT AND FOR WRONG, WE ARE CALLED TO SUFFER.

- A. The apostle Peter tells us there is suffering that is of no account, and there is suffering which is profitable.
- B. 1Pet. 2:20:
  - 1. There is no spiritual profit for suffering done on the account of sin.
  - 2. There is spiritual profit when we suffer for those things which are right.
  - 3. There is spiritual profit when we suffer unjustly because we desire to do right.These last two finds favor with God.
- C. Jesus said on the mount, "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt. 5:10).
- D. Now we find that as Christians we have been called to suffer (1Pet. 2:21a; 2Tim. 3:12).

## II. EXAMPLE OF CHRIST (IN SUFFERING).

- A. But God has never asked us to do anything, in which He has not told us how to do it.
- B. The example of Christ will show us how to suffer through our persecutions (1Pet. 2:21b).
- C. Isaiah 53:1-6 tells of six ways in which Christ suffered:
  - 1. He was despised (to be looked down upon with scorn).
  - 2. He was forsaken of men (to give up or renounce).
  - 3. He was pierced or wounded (to sharply affect the senses or feelings).
  - 4. He was crushed (opposition by pressure).
  - 5. He was chastened (to punish in order to make better).
  - 6. He was scourged (a means of inflicting vengeance).
- D. And His example in all of these was perfect (1Pet. 2:22,23):
  - 1. He committed no sin.
  - 2. No deceit was found in His mouth.
  - 3. When reviled, reviled not again.
  - 4. While suffering He uttered no threats.

## III. WHAT CHRIST'S SUFFERING DID.

- A. Christ bore our sins in his body (2Cor. 5:21).
- B. By His sacrifice of Himself we can die to sin, and live to righteousness (1Pet. 2:24; Rom. 6:13).
- C. By His stripes (wounds) we are healed spiritually. Not physically from disease as some have said. The context is of sins not ailments of the flesh (1Pet. 2:24,25; Isa. 53:6).
- D. We are the sick patient, Jesus is the doctor; but He takes the medicine to make us well! This is not true with other physicians.
- E. All of Jesus' suffering is of profit because it was done for the sake of righteousness and was all unjustly caused (1Pet. 2:20).
- F. Now we have a perfect example to follow when we suffer.

## **CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. Jesus was:
  - 1. Despised.
  - 2. Forsaken.
  - 3. Pierced.
  - 4. Crushed.
  - 5. Chastened.
  - 6. Scourged.
- B. All for our benefit:
  - 1. The forgiveness of sins.
  - 2. An example in suffering.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.