

Unjust Suffering: Sharing An Experience With Christ

Matthew 27:1-26

- 1) Jesus declared guilty by the Jews (Matt. 27:1-2)
- 2) Jesus affirmed innocent by the Romans (27:23; cf. John 18:38)
- 3) All are judged sinners unto death by actions (27:3-10)
- 4) Jesus declares sinners righteous through faith (Rom. 3:21-31)
- 5) All Christians will “suffer for His sake” (Phil. 1:29)
- 6) Christ suffered unjustly; He sympathizes with our weakness (Heb. 4:15)
 - a) God uses our circumstances for our good and His glory
 - b) *You get no credit for being patient if you are beaten for doing wrong. But if you suffer for doing good and endure it patiently, God is pleased with you* (1 Pet. 2:20, NLT).
- 7) Application: *sharing sorrows with Christ*
 - a) Don't miss an opportunity to do the right thing (e.g., Pilate, Judas)
 - b) Suffer as an evangelistic endeavor (27:14; cf. Phil. 1:12)
 - c) Forget justice on earth; God's kingdom is in the next world
 - i) Just speak truth for the kingdom of God without fear
 - ii) Avoid bitterness and anger, entrusting your circumstances to God
 - d) Stop demanding to be heard, defending yourself
 - i) Credibility is lost in our loud defenses
 - ii) God will decide where and when justice is had
 - e) Seek comfort in Christ