

“Therefore:” The Logical Lifestyle of a Hopeful Minority “We Believe In Purposeful Suffering”

Ephesians 3:11–13
(Page 977 in Chair Bible)
The Lord’s Day Morning
December 4, 2016

So far in Ephesians, Paul has effectively demonstrated that before he created the world, God’s plan was to form one body out of ethnically diverse people whom he chooses to redeem. This body is called the church and it will continue to grow even though in difficult circumstances the elect are tempted to lose heart.

Four things to remember so you don’t lose heart:

1. _____ is the undefeatable source of the plan.
2. _____ is the undisputed center of the plan.
3. _____ is the God-glorifying product of the plan.
4. _____ is a non-negotiable part of the plan.

Four things suffering produces in the lives of God’s children:

1. _____ to follow Christ (Ro. 5:3).
2. _____ to depend on Christ (2 Cor. 1:8,9).
3. _____ to represent Christ (2 Cor. 6:4)
4. _____ in the body of Christ (Phil. 4:14).