“Are You Saved?”

Romans 8:15-18

November 15, 2026

VI. How you suffer.

“Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.”

Romans 8:17 (NIV)

❖ A Christian will experience a lot of difficulty and suffering in life and though they may struggle, they will keep _____ to God and _____ in Him.

❖ The _____ a person suffers in life and _____ they respond to it as a sign of salvation.

❖ There are 3 ways that Christians suffer and experience difficulties in life.

A. Christians suffer in this world because of its broken _____.

“We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope, we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.”

Romans 8:22-25 (NIV)

B. Christians suffer as sons from the _____ of God their father.

“My son, do not despise the LORD’s discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.”

Proverbs 3:11-12 (NIV)

“And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, “My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.” Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? … No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.”

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11 (NIV)

C. Christians suffer persecution in this world because of their _____ for and _____ to God.

“Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master. ‘If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me.”

John 15:20-21 (NIV)

“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted”

2 Timothy 3:12 (NIV)

"After preaching the Good News there and making many disciples, they returned again to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, where they helped the believers to grow in love for God and each other. They encouraged them to continue in the faith in spite of all the persecution, reminding them that they must enter into the Kingdom of God through many tribulations."

Acts 14:21-22 (TLB)

- Persecution is the clash between 2 irreconcilable _____ _____, _____ and _____.

- There are 2 primary sources of persecution that come against a Christian.

1. Persecution from _____.

"Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him,"

Philippians 1:27-29 (NIV)

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Matthew 5: 11-12 (NIV)

"But I say: Love your *enemies!* Pray for those who *persecute* you! In that way you will be acting as true sons of your Father in heaven… If you are friendly only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even the heathen do that."

Matthew 5:44-45a, 47 (TLB)

2. Persecution from _____.

"Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand safe against all strategies and tricks of Satan. For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies—the evil rulers of the unseen world, those mighty satanic beings and great, evil princes of darkness who rule this world; and against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world…In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan."

Ephesians 6:11-12, 16 (NIV)

"At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship… In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing."

Job 1:20, 22 (NIV)