# Through Suffering and Difficulty

## James 1:2-4

**Intro:** God often grows and matures us through suffering and difficulty. **(*James 1:2-4*)**

**Jesus prepares His disciples and us for the coming suffering/difficulty. (*John 13:1, John 16:31-33*) How?**

1. **Jesus prepared His disciples and us for the coming suffering/difficulty by establishing a new covenant of forgiveness.** (*Luke 22:14-20, I Cor. 11:23-26*)

2. **Jesus prepared His disciples and us for the coming suffering/darkness by establishing a new commandment of love.** (*John 13:12-16, John 13:34-35*)

3. **Jesus prepared His disciples and us for the coming darkness by establishing a New Helper.** (*John 14:5-6, 15-20, 25-27*)
    a. We are never alone!!! (*Matt. 28:20*)
    b. The only way to get the Holy Spirit was by Jesus going to the cross.

**Conclusion:** Jesus is the model for perseverance **THROUGH** suffering, not around it. (*Matt. 26:36-39*) What suffering/difficulty am I facing and how do these new promises help in the battles I'm facing?

Notes: