

Sufferings and Perfection

1Pe 4:12-13

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:
13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are **PARTAKERS OF CHRIST'S SUFFERINGS**; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

The Sufferings and the Glory

The two aspects of Christ's sufferings -

1. HIS VICARIOUS SUFFERINGS.

2. THE SUFFERINGS FOR MINISTRY SAKE

Heb 5:8-9

8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience [**submission**] by the things which he suffered [**to feel, to experience, to undergo**];
9 And being made perfect [**complete**], he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

He always did his Father's will ([Joh 8:29](#)), but **HE GREW IN EXPERIENCE** as **IN WISDOM** and **STATURE** and **IN THE POWER OF SYMPATHY WITH US**.

The Divine Balance

Gen 37:3-4

3 Now **ISRAEL LOVED JOSEPH MORE THAN ALL HIS CHILDREN**, because he was the son of his old age: **AND HE MADE HIM A COAT OF MANY COLOURS**.
4 And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, **THEY HATED HIM**, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

- He always brings up the balance here
 - "Loved of his father, hated of his brethren"
 - Kind words from his father – cruel words from his brethren
- **IF YOU ARE LOVED OF THE FATHER** then expect trials, tribulations etc to balance things up
 - Like Joseph
 - The love of his father – the Covenant Robe
 - Higher calling – gifted beyond his brethren
 - Ordained to walk a far rockier path and sail a far stormier sea

Spurgeon - You may rest assured, brethren, that wherever God gives extraordinary gifts or graces, and appoints an extraordinary career, he also appoints unusual trial.

To eminence [honour] of any desirable kind there is no royal road, but we must wade through tribulation to it. For Joseph to become prime minister of Egypt the path lay through the prison-house: to all true honour the road is difficult. Expect, then, dear friend, if God gifts thee, or if he graces thee, that he intends to try thee.

Look upon talents and graces, and high hopes of eminent usefulness as signs of inevitable tribulation.

- **HENCE, JOSEPH HAS TO GO THROUGH FAR MORE FOR THE SAKE OF HIS BRETHREN**
 - Not for his own sake
 - But for **THE SAKE OF THE CALLING – THE MINISTRY**

John on Patmos

- **80% OF WHAT MINISTERS GO THROUGH IS NOT FOR THEMSELVES**
 - As with Jesus, Joseph etc
- These are “sufferings for Christ”
- Suffering for the Anointing
 - These sufferings create a condition that allows the Anointing to be expressed in and through us in ways that it otherwise couldn't

Rev 1:9-10

9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, **WAS IN THE ISLE THAT IS CALLED PATMOS, FOR THE WORD OF GOD, AND FOR THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST.**
 10 **I WAS IN THE SPIRIT ON THE LORD'S DAY,** and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

- He allowed the Spirit to brood over his circumstances
 - “I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day”
- Then he started to perceive the Divine hand in his current situation
- Then he became fruitful in the land of his affliction

THE.PATMOS.VISION_ JEFF.IN ROJC 69-130 SUNDAY_ 60-1204E

78 ... The place was at **THE ISLE OF PATMOS.** ...

80 **WHAT CONDITION THEN WAS THIS HOUR? ... A ROCKY ISLAND FULL OF SERPENTS, SCORPIONS, LIZARDS, AND SO FORTH.** ... And it was used in the days of John, as a Alcatraz, a place where the Roman empire exiled criminals, **real bad criminals, ... put them out there on that island to die:** ...

QUESTION: THE REASON WHY JOHN WAS THERE. A GODLY MAN, A RIGHTEOUS MAN, A MAN OF GOOD REPUTATION, GOOD CHARACTER, NEVER IN TROUBLE, WHY WAS THIS MAN THERE? THE BIBLE SAID, "FOR THE WORD OF GOD AND THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST."

- These were sufferings for Christ's sake
 - So that the Anointing could be expressed through him

REVELATION.CHAPTER.FOUR.1_ JEFF.IN ROJC 551-584 SATURDAY_ 60-1231

55 **AND CAN ANYTHING HAPPEN TO A CHRISTIAN WITHOUT IT'S FOR THE BEST?** No, nope. **SO WHAT DID GOD GET HIM OUT THERE ALONE ON THE ISLAND FOR? GIVE US THIS BOOK OF REVELATION.**

- Satan thought that he had him

SEE, GOD JUST CAN PULL THE WOOL OVER THE DEVIL'S EYES ANY TIME HE WANTS TO, CAN'T HE? He just simply can. I just love Him. Because I don't have to be smart. ... And so I--I just... **Whatever I got, I surrender myself to Him and just do what He says do.** That's all. Sometimes it's very contrary to the way I think it is. But I know, if He's leading it, He's smart. He knows what He's doing; I ... See? **He's the One knows what He's doing; I don't. See?** ... just humble myself and say, "Here I am, Father, any time You want me." So just go right on like that, **and it always comes out right.**

56 **SO JOHN, WE WOULDN'T HAVE HAD A BOOK OF REVELATIONS IF IT HADN'T HAVE BEEN FOR JOHN, AND JOHN HADN'T WENT OUT ON THE ISLE. THAT WAS GOD'S WAY OF GIVING US THE BOOK OF REVELATION.**

- The captivity came to an end as soon as the purpose was complete

THE.PATMOS.VISION_ JEFF.IN ROJC 69-130 SUNDAY_ 60-1204E

83 ... They put him on the isle **FOR TWO YEARS. AND WHILE GOD HAD HIM OUT THERE ALONE TO HIMSELF, HE WROTE THE BOOK OF REVELATIONS** as the Angel of the Lord revealed it to him. **AND THEN AS SOON AS THAT WAS OVER, HE COME BACK TO HOMELAND, AND PASTORED THE CHURCH IN EPHEBUS,** and died, and was buried in Ephesus: John the Divine.

- **HE WROTE REVELATION WITH HIS OWN BLOOD**

Paul

- “Lord, You called me to be the apostle to the Gentiles, but here I am sitting in a cold, damp prison. What does this mean? Would I not be of better use somewhere else?”
- “Paul, what is that in thine hand?”
- “A pen, some parchments and books”
- “Give it over to Me and I’ll use your circumstances to write the New Testament”

Ephraim and Manasseh

- Two things came forth from him during his time of affliction

Gen 41:50-52

50 And unto Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bare unto him.

51 And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: **FOR GOD, SAID HE, HATH MADE ME FORGET** all my toil, and all my father's house.

- Firstly he had to come to terms with what he had been through
 - “God hath made me forget”
- He did this by allowing the Holy Ghost to brood over his times and experiences of affliction
 - Shown by the fact that the Lord was with him in both Potiphar's house and the prison

A.PRISONER_ JEFF.IN V-2 N-8 WEDNESDAY_ 63-0717

170 Now notice. **BUT, ALL THE TIME, I BELIEVE, HE, IN THAT PRISON, HE COULD REMEMBER THAT THE VISION SAID THAT HE WAS GOING TO SET ON A THRONE, AND HIS BROTHERS WAS GOING TO BOW TO HIM,** because he knew that his gift come from God. And he knew that it had to come to pass.

52 And the name of the second called he Ephraim: For **GOD HATH CAUSED ME TO BE FRUITFUL IN THE LAND OF MY AFFLICTION.**

- The land of your affliction is invariably the place of your greatest fruitfulness
 - If you allow Him to brood over those experiences

Fanny Crosby – “The blind poet”

“IT SEEMED INTENDED BY THE BLESSED PROVIDENCE OF GOD THAT I SHOULD BE BLIND ALL MY LIFE, and I THANK HIM FOR THE DISPENSATION. If perfect earthly sight were offered me tomorrow, I WOULD NOT ACCEPT IT. I MIGHT NOT HAVE SUNG HYMNS TO THE PRAISE OF GOD IF I HAD BEEN DISTRACTED BY THE BEAUTIFUL AND INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT ME”

- She never focussed on the disability
- But she came to terms with it, as “a dispensation”
 - She so came to terms with it that she thanked Him for it
- Required for the Anointing to minister through her in a very particular way

GOD.TALKED.TO.MOSES_ CHICAGO.IL MONDAY_ 53-0831

E-7 ... Many of you know Fanny Crosby, know of her, rather, that **SHE WAS THE BLIND POET: GIVE THE WORLD SOME OF IT'S BEST SONGS. MOST TOUCHING ALTAR CALLS THAT'S EVER BEEN SANG,** nearly, was Fanny Crosby's, "**PASS ME NOT O GENTLE SAVIOUR,**" **AND ALL THOSE HEART WARMING SONGS.**

Sister Hope and Sharon Rose

- He came to terms with it - Saw the reason for it – that it was necessary

- “The crushing of a rose”
 - “Too much Branham in there”
 - Fruitful in the land of his affliction
 - Greatest altar calls
- But be careful who you listen to at such times
 - “I was about to say”

AND.KNOWETH.IT.NOT_ JEFF.IN V-2 N-10 SUNDAY_ 65-0815

195 Then Satan moved up by the side of me there, and said, "Did you say He was a good God?" I said, "Yeah, I said that."

203 "Your daddy buried. Your brother buried. Your wife lying there, to be buried. Here is your baby, just about fifteen minutes longer and it'll be gone. And He's a healer? Your own flesh and blood; one word from Him would save the baby's life. ... And you said He loved you. Could He love you?"

207 Everything he was telling me was the truth. Everything that he would say, just fall right in line, see, here. I was just then about ready to say, "Then I, if that's the way He has to act, then I won't serve Him."

208 Just as I said that, there was Something came from somewhere else, way down on the inside. Said, "Who are you, to begin with? The Lord gave, and the Lord taken away." See, that's that inside man, don't reason at all.

209 I looked back, and I thought, "How did I get on earth? I come from a bunch of drunkards. How did I get here? Who give me life? Who give me that wife? Who give me that baby? Where did my wife come from? Where did my life come from?" I said, "Though He slay me, yet I'll trust Him."

I said, "Get away from me, Satan!"

210 I laid my hand over on the baby. I said, "Sharon, honey, I'll lay you on your mother's arms in a few minutes, when the Angels of God comes to take you away, but one day daddy will see you again."

The Crushing of the Rose of Sharon

REVELATION.CHAPTER.FOUR.3_ JEFF.IN ROJC 645-716 SUNDAY_ 61-0108

306 Look at Aaron, in type... Once a year. How did he have... He had to be dressed in such a way. ...He was approaching the mercy seat with the blood.

AND HE HAD TO BE ANOINTED WITH A CERTAIN OIL, PERFUMED WITH A CERTAIN PERFUME MADE OUT OF THE ROSE OF SHARON. And Jesus was that Rose of Sharon.

And notice, **A ROSE IS A BEAUTIFUL THING; IT HAS PERFUME IN IT. BUT BEFORE THE PERFUME CAN COME OUT, THE ROSE HAS TO BE CRUSHED,** and then the perfume is squeezed from the rose.

Jesus, in His Life, was the most beautiful Life ever lived; **BUT HE COULDN'T REMAIN THAT WAY, 'CAUSE HE HAD TO ANOINT HIS CHURCH** to approach His holiness, **SO HIS LIFE WAS SQUEEZED OUT.** ...

- Joseph couldn't just remain like that
 - To just live an ordinary life like his brothers
- He was ordained to be used by the Holy Ghost to minister in a peculiar way
 - To minister a blessing to his brothers
- And the path that his footsteps were ordained to walk to achieve this wasn't an easy one

The Brooding of the Spirit

Gen 1:1-2

1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

Moved - 1) **TO BROOD**

WHAT.DOES.IT.TAKE.TO.MAKE.A.CHRISTIAN.LIFE CHICAGO.IL SUNDAY_ 57-0113

E-42 Now, I want you to notice. In the beginning when God our Father looked over this bleak earth, and it wasn't nothing but one great big ball of water, **AND GOD SENT THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THE EARTH, THE LOGOS THAT WENT OUT OF GOD,** and **IT BEGAN TO BROOD OVER THE EARTH.** Now, **THE WORD "BROOD" MEANS "TO MAKE LOVE"** or **JUST LIKE THE DOVE TO COO.** And the great Holy Spirit over the earth...

As a mental picture, we're going make It like wings, **WITH HIS GREAT WINGS AROUND THE EARTH, A BROODING, MAKING LOVE,** cooing. **"COME, COME, THE FATHER HAS ORDAINED YOU, COME. I'M COMING TO PERFORM WHAT THE FATHER'S WORD HAS SAID."** Is it soaking in? **"I HAVE COME TO MANIFEST WHAT THE FATHER HAS SPOKEN."**

- This is how we come to the manifestation of the Promises
 - Not by getting upset and worked up
 - Nor by trying to manufacture solutions in our impatience
- But by allowing the Logos to brood over us

Brood... And **AFTER A WHILE THERE BEGIN TO COME SOME PETROLEUM MOVING ACROSS THE EARTH,** and **A LITTLE BIT OF THIS AND THAT, AND A LITTLE EASTER LILY COMES UP IN THE EARTH.** What brought it? The Holy Spirit brooding.

- Only His brooding can bring us to the new birth

E-49 ... Here it is, quickly... If the Holy Spirit brooding over mankind, that's already nothing but dust of the earth, **THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN BROOD ETERNAL LIFE INTO YOU.** Your intellectuals, no matter how brilliant you may be, they are totally rejected by God. Your denominations means not that much to God. Your great teachers of theology doesn't mean that to God. **IT TAKES THE BROODING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO BRING YOU INTO THE FELLOWSHIP OF GOD TO GIVE YOU ETERNAL LIFE TO RAISE YOU UP AGAIN AT THE LAST DAY.** "Except a man be born of the Spirit and water, he will in no wise enter in."

- Only the brooding of the Holy Spirit can restore us back to our right condition

INDIA.TRIP.REPORT_ LIMA.OH SATURDAY_ 57-0126B

E-82 ... Not our theology and not our psychology, but **THE TRUTH OF THE REAL TRUE CREATOR WHO MADE THE HEAVENS AND EARTH.** And as the Holy Spirit brood us from the earth, **SURELY THE BROODING OF THE HOLY GHOST CAN RESTORE US BACK TO OUR RIGHT CONDITIONS.**

Relax

Gen 1:2

2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And **THE SPIRIT OF GOD MOVED** upon the face of the waters.

Moved - 1) to brood 2) **TO GROW SOFT, RELAX**

DO.YOU.NOW.BELIEVE_ CHICAGO.IL SUNDAY_ 54-0725

E-29 Now, the woman standing here, we've never met before in life; we're just strangers. I just want to talk to you, lady. **AND I JUST WANT YOU TO RELAX YOURSELF AND STAND HERE.** ...

E-30 Now, now, the Angel of God that you see in the picture is here now. He is here now at the platform. ...

THE.SEVENTH.SEAL_ JEFF.IN SUNDAY_ 63-0324E

569-1 {340} And then I thought, "Well, what is it, Lord?" And I walked up and down the floor awhile. I'd kneel down and pray, go back and pick up the Bible, set down, and read, walk back and forth. **AND THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN WHEN I GOT QUIET, HERE IT JUST UNFOLDED LIKE THAT.**

Stumbling blocks vs Stepping Stones

- Taking those negative experiences and **CHANNELLING THEM INTO YOUR CALLING AND MINISTRY**
 - As the prophet did with Sister Hope and Sharon Rose
- This can only happen if you truly come to terms with them
 - Which absolutely requires you to allow the brooding of the Holy Spirit in them
 - To see the situation exactly the way that He does
- Then they are no longer stumbling blocks, but they rather become stepping stones