

## “WHY DO CHRISTIANS SUFFER?”

### **Lesson 42**

1. If God is \_\_\_\_\_ why does He allow us to suffer \_\_\_\_\_?
2. There are \_\_\_\_\_ God would have us learn that can only be learned through \_\_\_\_\_ . John 16:33, Hebrews 2:10
3. Christianity is not an inoculation against \_\_\_\_\_. Hebrews 12:6
4. Christians suffer because of \_\_\_\_\_. 1 Peter 2:20 & 21
5. Christians suffer when they stand for \_\_\_\_\_. 1 Peter 3:8-15
6. Christians suffer because of \_\_\_\_\_. 1 Cor. 11:27-32
7. Christians suffer because of \_\_\_\_\_. If an alcoholic gets saved \_\_\_\_\_ but his or her body continues to suffer the ravages caused by the addiction. Galatians 6:7-10; Acts 9:23
8. Believers suffer for the \_\_\_\_\_. Job 1:8-11, Acts 9:15 & 16
9. Christians suffer for \_\_\_\_\_. Acts 12:2 & 4; 2 Peter 1:12-15; John 21:18 & 19; Hebrews 11:35-38
10. We as believers will suffer in the process of \_\_\_\_\_. Hebrews 12:6-10
11. What are some of the \_\_\_\_\_ of discipline and/or suffering?
  - A. The enemy is \_\_\_\_\_. Job 1:20-22
  - B. God is \_\_\_\_\_. John 11:4, 40 & 41; John 9:1-3
  - C. We become \_\_\_\_\_ Christ. Philippians 3:10; Romans 8:29
  - D. We learn to \_\_\_\_\_ on Him. Psalm 46:1
  - E. Discipline \_\_\_\_\_ our faith. Hebrews 12:11-13
  - F. Suffering teaches us \_\_\_\_\_. Patience can only be learned by \_\_\_\_\_. Romans 5:3-5 (Patience is not a \_\_\_\_\_ it is \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - G. Suffering makes us \_\_\_\_\_. 2 Corinthians 1:3-7
  - H. Suffering keeps us \_\_\_\_\_. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, 1 Peter 5:5 & 6

12. What \_\_\_\_\_ come from suffering?

A. We know that \_\_\_\_\_. Hebrews 12:5-8

B. We learn to be \_\_\_\_\_ to God. Hebrews 12:9

C. We are led into \_\_\_\_\_. Hebrews 12:10

D. Suffering produces \_\_\_\_\_. Hebrews 12:11

E. Discipline gives us the \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_. Heb. 12:8

F. Suffering and discipline work together to make believers \_\_\_\_\_.  
Hebrews 12:12 & 13

### Conclusion

What is your reaction to the chastening of the Lord -- to the trials and tribulations of life?

Hebrews 12:5 says, "*Despise not the chastening of the Lord.*" How does one despise it? Simply by ignoring the fact that God is trying to teach you something -- so let Him. Another way you can react to God's discipline is to take on a good dose of self pity. "*Why did God let this happen to me?*" The Bible says, "*Faint not when you are rebuked of Him*" (Hebrews 12:5). That suffering, or problem, has come to you as a challenge to trust Him through it all. Then, there are those with a super-pious attitude. They will say, "*This is my cross and I'll bear it,*" when all the time there is rebellion inside their heart and soul. "*No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them who are exercised by it*" (Hebrews 12:11). Finally, we are to endure chastening -- suffering (Hebrews 12:7). The hardest lesson for most of us is to endure anything very long. Do you ever take an inventory of your life when trouble comes? Job said, "*When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold*" (Job 23:10). "*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you*" (James 4:8).