

**“If We Suffer, We Shall Also Reign”**  
**II Timothy 2:8-13**

Introduction: As we view this second chapter of II Timothy, we see the point that Paul is trying to express to Timothy is the roles of the pastor. In this text, the pastor is a steward (vs. 1-2), a soldier (vs. 3-4), a success (v. 5), a sower (vs. 6-7), a sufferer (vs. 8-13), a student (vs. 14-18), and a servant (vs. 19-26). It is this fifth function of the man of God that we will turn our attention. Any true servant of the Lord will face persecution (II Timothy 3:12- *“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution”*). Therefore, notice the suffering in the life of a servant.

1. The Example in Suffering 2:8- *“Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel”*
2. The Evil in Suffering 2:9- *“Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound”*
3. The Endurance in Suffering 2:10- *“Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory”*
4. The Endowment of Suffering 2:12- *“If we suffer, we shall also reign with him...”*

Body: Although the Christian may suffer, there is great blessing at the end of the way. Keep in mind that *“...God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister”*. As we view this Scripture, we notice two elements about suffering. Observe:

- I. The Reason for Suffering vs. 8-10- *“Wherein I suffer”*
  - A. Because of His Conversation v. 8- *“according to my gospel”*
    1. A Prepared Gospel Matthew 24:14- *“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come”*
    2. A Pardoning Gospel Acts 20:24- *“But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God”*
    3. A Peaceful Gospel Romans 10:15- *“And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things”*
    4. A Praiseworthy Gospel II Corinthians 4:4- *“In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them”*
    5. A Perpetual Gospel Revelation 14:6- *“And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people”*

- B. Because of His Christ v. 9- *“Wherein I suffer trouble”*
1. Persecution because of the Saviour John 15:18- *“If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you”*
    - a. I John 3:13- *“Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you”*
    - b. Matthew 10:22- *“And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved”*
  2. Persecution through Speech Matthew 5:11- *“Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake”*
  3. Persecution through Separation Luke 6:22- *“Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake”*
- C. Because of His Converts v. 10- *“I endure all things for the elect's sakes”*
1. Agony for the Saints Ephesians 3:13- *“Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory”*
  2. Afflictions for the Saints Colossians 1:24- *“Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church”*

- II. The Rejoicing in Suffering vs. 11-13- *“If we suffer, we shall also reign with him”*
- A. Because of our Life v. 11- *“It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him”*
1. Our Resurrection Romans 6:5- *“For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection”*
  2. Our Return Romans 6:8- *“Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him”*
- B. Because of our Liberty v. 12- *“If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us”*
1. Revelation 5:10- *“And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth”*
  2. Revelation 20:4- *“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years”*
  3. Revelation 20:6- *“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years”*
  4. Revelation 22:5- *“And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever”*

C. Because of His Loyalty v. 13- *“If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself”* (Even our own doubt and unbelief cannot change the faithfulness of God.)

1. Faithful to Fellowship I Corinthians 1:9- *“God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord”*
2. Faithful to Free I Corinthians 10:13- *“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it”*
3. Faithful to Fulfill Hebrews 10:23- *“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)”*
4. Faithful to Forgive I John 1:9- *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”*

Conclusion: It is a great blessing to know that if we suffer for and with Christ, then we shall also reign with Him. However, what happens if we do not suffer for Him? Evidently, we will not reign with Him during the millennial. What great crowns and rewards are lost to those who do not live for Jesus Christ!