

Suffering

Romans 8: 18-28

Introduction **The second story of our spiritual house is suffering.**

I. Paul knew suffering

A. Inflicted suffering on others

- 1. Had Christians arrested, imprisoned, and killed**
- 2. Acts 8:1**

B. Personal suffering

- 1. arrested (Acts 21:27), and shipwrecked (Acts 27:27)**
- 2. stranded (Acts 28), and put on trial (Acts 25)**

II. Present sufferings

A. worth

- 1. not worth our future glory (v.18)**
- 2. Stephen (Acts 7:55 and 56)**

B. substance

- 1. we suffer while we have the Holy Spirit (v.23)**
- 2. so intense that we "groan inwardly" (17th century Huguenots)**

III. The Holy Spirit's role in suffering

A. Intercessor

- 1. carries word of our pain and suffering to God (v.26)**
- 2. acts in accordance with God's will (outside the will of God = outside the Holy Spirit's help)**

IV. God's will

A. Love

- 1. To operate within the will of God is to love God and others.**
- 2. Cliff Kinney (peace worker in Iraq)**

B. that all should be used for good (v.28)

- 1. all is a definite adjective, no interpretation needed**
- 2. 17th century Huguenots were used to spread God's Word through their sufferings.**

Conclusion: **If you remain faithful you will reap a reward and possibly touch someone else's life.**