

“Wine and Milk (19): Putting on Heirs for Love”

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Romans 8:15-17 and the bombshell about suffering

- ◆ *If we \_\_\_\_\_, then we \_\_\_\_\_.*
- ◆ *No \_\_\_\_\_—no \_\_\_\_\_.*
- ◆ *There is a \_\_\_\_\_ to our inheritance.*
- ◆ *\_\_\_\_\_ is part and parcel of the Christian journey.*
- ◆ *Lewis Smede’s definition:*

“What *is* suffering? Some synonyms that come to mind at once are ‘pain,’ ‘tribulation,’ ‘sorrow,’ ‘anger.’ But what all suffering really comes down to is *the experience of anything we want very much \_\_\_\_\_ to experience . . . .* [to] want to be \_\_\_\_\_ of something with such passion that it hurts.” (*Love Within Limits* 1)

Romans 8:28

- ◆ NLT: “And we know that God \_\_\_\_\_ everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.”

Romans 8:29

- *Suffering shapes us into the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ!*
- Hebrews 5:7, 8
  - \_\_\_\_\_ is the door to God’s ultimate will and purpose for all His children.
  - I Peter 4:1, 2
  - I Peter 1:6, 7

- ◆ *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing:*

“The trials of life are God’s workmen, to remove the impurities and roughness from our character. Their hewing, squaring, and chiseling, their burnishing and polishing, is a painful process; it is hard to be pressed down to the grinding wheel. But the stone is brought forth prepared to fill its place in the heavenly temple. Upon no useless material does the Master bestow such careful, thorough work. Only His precious stones are polished after the similitude of a palace.” (10)

- “The Lord will work for all who put their trust in Him. Precious victories will be gained by the faithful. Precious lessons will be learned. Precious experiences will be realized.” (11)
- It is *through suffering* that I am ushered into an \_\_\_\_\_ with God that cannot be experienced in any other way.

Romans 8’s portrait of the Trinity—the triune God who meets us in our suffering

- ◆ The Holy Spirit
  - Romans 8:26, 27.
  - James Montgomery:

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,  
Unuttered or unexpressed,  
The motion of a hidden fire  
That trembles in the breast.  
Prayer is the burden of a sigh,  
The falling of a tear,  
The upward glancing of an eye,  
When none but God is near.

■ *The Holy Spirit is the God who \_\_\_\_\_ in us: "God in us."*

◆ The Father

■ Romans 8:31, 32.

■ Octavius Winslow: "Who delivered up Jesus to die? Not Judas, for money; not Pilate, for fear; not the Jews, for envy;—but the Father, for love!"

■ *The Father is the God who \_\_\_\_\_ for us: "God for us."*

◆ The Son

■ *The Son is the God who \_\_\_\_\_ with us: "God with us."*

■ 8:35, 37

■ Because of Calvary, we know that God can take the \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives and turn it into the \_\_\_\_\_ for our lives.

■ Thomas Schreiner: "The point is that the love of Christ is so powerful that it turns our greatest enemies into our \_\_\_\_\_." (*Romans 460*)

■ Phil 3:10—"I want to know Christ \_\_\_\_\_ *the fellowship of His sufferings.*"

□ Romans 8:38, 39

◆ *Desire of Ages 224, 225: "God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning, and discern the glory of the purpose which they are fulfilling as co-workers with Him. . . . Of all the gifts that Heaven can bestow upon men, fellowship with Christ in His sufferings is the most weighty trust and the highest honor."*

*"O love, that wilt not let me go"*

suffer, inherit, suffering, inheritance, condition, Suffering, *not*, rid, causes, image, Suffering, intimacy, groans, gives, goes, worst, best, friends, and