

# “An Unavoidable Consequence”

(I Peter 3:14-17 and 4:13-16)

**Suffering:** (defined)...”To undergo pain, inconvenience, or loss...To bear what is disagreeable or distressing”.

## I. The Reasons for Suffering:

- A. There is a suffering associated with living in \_\_\_\_\_.  
\* Joshua 7:1, 25...I Cor.11:28-32
- B. There is a suffering associated with circumstances of \_\_\_\_\_.  
\* Genesis 3:16-19...John 16:33
- C. There is a suffering associated with \_\_\_\_\_.  
\* Job 2:7...II Cor.12:7
- D. There is a suffering associated with living for the \_\_\_\_\_.  
\* Acts 5:40, II Timothy 3:12

## II. Our Responses to Suffering:

- A. If the suffering is due to sin..... R\_\_\_\_\_.
- B. If the suffering is due to circumstances of life..... R\_\_\_\_\_.
- C. If the suffering is due to Satan..... R\_\_\_\_\_.  
\* I Peter 5:8-9
- D. If suffering is due to your stand for the Saviour... R\_\_\_\_\_.  
\* Acts 5:40-41

**Note:** Often, there is very little suffering for our Saviour.

\* I Peter 2:18-21, 3:13-17

## III. The Rewards of Suffering: (when we respond properly)

- A. Brings \_\_\_\_\_ to God.  
\* Philippians 2:14-15
- B. Draws us \_\_\_\_\_ to God.  
\* Psalm 119:67
- C. Builds our \_\_\_\_\_.  
\* Romans 5:3
- D. Allows us to be a \_\_\_\_\_ to others.
  - 1. Example...
  - 2. Empathy...
  - 3. Encouragement...

## **\*\* Suffering’s greatest benefit:**

A perfect \_\_\_\_\_ through a \_\_\_\_\_ Saviour!  
\* Isaiah 53...Acts 17:3...I Peter 3:18

### **Romans 8:28**

When we can be grateful for the trials, then we have the proper focus and attitude.

\* Often we fight, at all costs, to avoid suffering...and end up missing the ‘crucible of character’