

Good Friday Service 2021
1 Peter 2:21-25
 Pastor Eric Yee

Follow Jesus in his suffering.

I. Jesus is our suffering example (vv. 21-23)

A. Christians are called to endure suffering for doing good.

²¹ For to this you have been called...

1 Peter 2:19-20 = For **this** is a gracious thing, **when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly**. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if **when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this** is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

B. Christ exemplified how to endure suffering for doing good.

²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

Life Application #1: Entrust to God every aspect of your suffering.

- Are you lamenting to God?
- Are you enduring suffering with fellow members of Christ's body (1 Cor. 12:26)?

II. Jesus is our saving shepherd (vv. 24-25)

A. Jesus suffered and died for the salvation of sinners.

²⁴ **He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree**, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness....

Justification is the gracious, legal act of God in which he forgives sinners of their sins and declares them righteous in his sight by virtue of them being united to Christ by faith in his death and resurrection.

²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, **that we might die to sin and live to righteousness**....

Sanctification is the gracious act of God in which he definitively (once-for-all) and progressively (more-and-more) makes holy those he has justified through applying the death and resurrection of Christ unto them until they are conformed completely into the likeness of Christ.

²⁴ **He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree**, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness....

That in my severest tribulations I may be assured that Christ my Lord has redeemed me from hellish anxieties and torment by the unspeakable anguish, pains, and terrors which he suffered in his soul both on the cross and before. (Heidelberg Catechism)

B. Christ has indeed saved (or healed) us from our sin if we have turned (or returned) to Christ as our Shepherd and Overseer.

²⁴ ... By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

In Israel, as in other ancient societies, **a shepherd's work was considered the lowest of all works**. If a family needed a shepherd, it was always the youngest son, like David, who got this unpleasant assignment. **Shepherds had to live with the sheep twenty-four hours a day, and the task of caring for them was unending**. Day and night, summer and winter, in fair weather and foul, they labored to nourish, guide, and protect the sheep... **Left to themselves, sheep lack everything**. They are the most helpless animals. (James Montgomery Boice)

Life Application #2: Turn (or return) to Christ alone as your saving Shepherd and Overseer.

Isaiah 53:4-6 = Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.