

“Identifying With the Suffering Servant”
Matthew 16:21-28

**I. The Messiah Would Accomplish His Mission
Through Suffering**
A. A Divine Mandate

Isaiah 53:7,8

He was oppressed and afflicted,

Yet He did not open His mouth;

Like a lamb that is led to slaughter,

And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers,

So He did not open His mouth.

By oppression and judgment He was taken away;

And as for His generation, who considered

That He was cut off from the land of the living

For the wrongdoing of my people, to whom the

blow was due?

- I. The Messiah Would Accomplish His Mission Through Suffering**
 - A. A Divine Mandate*
 - B. Peter's Response*

**“Heaven forbid, Lord, This will never
happen to you!” (NLT)**

I. The Messiah Would Accomplish His Mission Through Suffering

A. A Divine Mandate

B. Peter's Response

C. Jesus Rebukes Peter

“you do not have in mind the concerns of God,
but merely human concerns.” (NIV)

- I. The Messiah Would Accomplish His Mission Through Suffering**
 - A. A Divine Mandate*
 - B. Peter's Response*
 - C. Jesus Rebukes Peter*
 - D. What Peter Failed to Understand*

Isaiah 53:5

“He was pierced through for our transgressions.
He was crushed for our iniquities; The
chastening for our well-being fell upon Him,
And by His scourging we are healed.”

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D. What Peter Failed to Understand

II. Those Who Follow Christ Must Be Prepared to Suffer

A. Cost of Discipleship

Matthew 13:20,21

The one sown with seed on the rocky places, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution occurs because of the word, immediately he falls away.

Philippians 3:7,8

But whatever things were gain to me, these things I have counted as loss because of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them mere rubbish, so that I may gain Christ

“Christ says, “Give me all. I don't want so much of your time and so much of your money and so much of your work: I want you. I have not come to torment your natural self, but to kill it. No half-measures are any good. I don't want to cut off a branch here and a branch there. I want to have the whole tree down. I don't want to drill the tooth, or crown it, or stop it, but to have it out. Hand over the whole natural self, all the desires which you think are innocent as well as the ones you think are wicked—the whole outfit. I will give you a new self instead. In fact, I will give you myself: my own will shall become yours.” —C. S. Lewis

"It is really nice that you want to become a Christian, but when you give your testimony...there will be informers here who will jot down your name. Tomorrow the problems will start. Count the cost. Christianity is not easy. It's not cheap. You can be demoted. You can lose your job. You can lose your friends. You can lose your neighbors. You can lose your kids who are climbing the social ladder. You can lose even your life."

"If I lose everything but my personal relationship with my Lord Jesus Christ, it is still worth it."

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A. Cost of Discipleship

B. Understanding Your Choices

C. Worth the Risk?

Romans 8:16,17

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

Romans 8:18

“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.”

