

## UNDESERVED SUFFERING - 3

---

1. There is always a certain amount of undeserved suffering that is directly related to negative volition around us, especially when those who are close to us are negative.
2. Christ experienced undeserved suffering due to negative volition around Him,

**Hebrews 12:1** Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you may not grow weary and lose heart.

3. Wives suffer due to negative volition of their husbands, 1 Pet. 3:1-6. However, the wife that is truly positive to doctrine will not allow his sins and evil to make her miserable or bitter. Her relationship with the Lord protects her.
4. When wives are under undeserved suffering from their negative husbands, God instructs them 1) not to complain (“without a word”), 2) have a humble and meek spirit (instead of being a Xantippe), and 3) continue to devote themselves to their husbands (calling them “lords”).
5. Christian women who follow the directives of the Lord will grow in inner beauty. Rejection of the Lord’s mandates destroys the inner beauty and femininity of a woman’s soul.

**1 Peter 3:5** For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands.

6. Christian women are directed to focus on their inner beauty (development of the spiritual life) more than their outer beauty,

**1 Peter 3:3** And let not your adornment be *merely* external-- braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; <sup>4</sup> but *let it be* the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God. <sup>5</sup> For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands.

7. There is certain amount of undeserved suffering related to relatives who have negative volition. It is critical to put the Lord before family or relatives, Luke 14:25-27. Christ had siblings who had negative volition, but He did not let that distract Him from the plan of God, Matt. 12:47.
8. In undeserved suffering, all believers are directed not to return evil for evil, slander for slander,

**1 Peter 3:9** not returning evil for evil, or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing. <sup>10</sup> For, "Let him who means to love life and see good days Refrain his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking guile.

In Him,

*Pastor Don*