October 18, 2020 - Suffering for Jesus

The apostles suffered **greatly**, and unjustly; but, they rejoiced because of it.

Acts 5:40-42

Jesus Himself, AND their relationship with Him, AND the truth of the Gospel, AND the great need of the lost were **REAL** to them!

As they had told the religious leaders, "We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:20)

We, like them, need to be careful to **not** be so future trials and persecutions focused that we're no present good. - Ephesians 5:15-16

When persecution and suffering do come, remember: Eyes and hearts on Jesus!

- Christ suffered for us as an example. - 1 Peter 2:20b-23

- It has been granted us to suffer for Christ. - Philippians 1:29

- We will be persecuted as we live a godly life. - 2 Timothy 3:10-12

- Jesus taught that we will have trouble. - John 16:33

- We should want to know the fellowship of Christ's sufferings. - Philippians 3:10

- The sufferings, and comfort, of Christ flow into our lives. - $\underline{2}$ Corinthians 1:3-7

- Suffer for the Gospel by the power of God. - 2 Timothy 1:8

- By His power we have hope through our suffering. - 2 Corinthians 4:7-9

- Rejoice in suffering. - Romans 5:1-4

- Sharing in Christ's sufferings assures us that we will share in His glory. - Romans 8:16-18

- Rejoice in your sufferings for Christ. - 1 Peter 4:12-19

We know that we have the love, grace, peace and joy of the Lord in us at all times because Jesus is in us at all times, no matter what.

- So, when we suffer as Christians, those blessings are still ours, still within us, because Jesus is still ours and still within us!

- Philippians 4:4