

Jesus Pain

1 Peter 4:12-19

God's greatest works are often carried out through pain.

Jesus knew great pain: agony of heart and body.

His compassionate heart – shared the pain of people.

He felt great pain for people who did not know God...

Jesus willingly embraced suffering to give people life.

Matthew 16:21

He gave Himself to great pain – for the good of others

This is love.

What does this mean for those who follow Him?

Jesus commands us to “take up our cross” and “follow” Him.

Suffering is inevitable – in genuine relationship with Jesus.

“For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him...” (Philippians 1:29)

Suffering can be a joyful honor.

“The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.” (Acts 5:41)

Suffering can make us strong.

“Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance...character...hope...” (Romans 5:3)

Suffering will be overcome by glory and reward.

“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.” (Romans 8:18)

Do I deeply know that Jesus hurt... – for me?

Do I see that this is what real love so often does?

Do I want to love like Him – even if painful – more and more?

Following Jesus means to share His willingness to suffer.

Our own pain... will be used by God.