

Surviving Life

“God Wills Growth through Storm & Suffering” (2)

7/26/09

Text: 1 Peter 1:1-2

“^d Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ² according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.”

God wills that the mission of the church (and thereby the mission of each Christ-follower) grow through storm and suffering. But we are led to ask “WHY?”

1. Suffering Deepens F and

H

Cross reference: 2 Corinthians 1:8-9

2. Suffering Makes Your C

I

Cross references: 2 Corinthians 4:17-18;
Matthew 5:11-12

3. Suffering is the Price of M

O

B

Cross references: Philippians 1:14; John 12:24

4. Suffering D the

S of God

When God declined to remove the suffering of Paul’s *thorn in the flesh*, He said to Paul, “*My grace is sufficient for you, for MY POWER is made perfect in weakness*” (2 Corinthians 12:9).

“⁹ ... Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

SO.....

