

Addition to Corresponding Suffering

Mk 10:38; Lk 12:49 — What did our Master come to do? Cast a fire upon the earth. What does that mean? His word being proclaimed. What will it cause? Division.

Lk 12:50-51 — His fire will cause division. What will this paper *Back to the Garden* cause? Division. What is the baptism of verse 50? Let's look at Mk 10:35-39. They seldom called Him by His first name.

Verse 38 — What is the cup? The cup is a metaphor. How do we drink the cup? How are we baptized? How is it He did it and how are we to do it? How are we to sit on thrones (not literally, rather be in authority) and judge and rule the nations as the apostles will (Mt 19:28). Some will even sit at His right and left with Him judging the whole world.

The cup and baptism are both metaphors. A metaphor uses one word for another word or concept in order to suggest comparison (*Herod, that old fox* — fox is the metaphor). Are the cup and baptism two separate things? They are two aspects of one thing. In the Old Covenant the cup was a common metaphor of God's wrath against those who persist in rebellion against Him.

Where did He experience wrath? On the cross when His Father turned away from Him. Jn 18:11 — That was the cup of God's wrath against those in rebellion to Him. The cup our Master had to drink was the cup of wrath due us. We were the ones who persisted in rebellion. He bore the wrath in place of rebellious mankind. The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve mankind and give His life as a ransom. We have to know what *ransom* means to deliver the good news. We can't be ministers of the gospel without knowing what ransom is — to re-purchase someone from a state of bondage.

The Cup and the Baptism

Mk 14:36 — Your will expresses what you desire. He gives us grace based on that desire. We can't do His will without His help. He called His Father's will for Him the cup. It was the ransom He had to pay — not only His life but to experience the wrath of God. What was the cup? It was the act of being on the cross, experiencing the wrath to bring about redemption — ransom. The cup was His death on the cross and all the humiliation and excruciating agony that went with it. His baptism was being immersed into death, spending the three days and three nights in the center of the earth (Mt 12:40). The cup is the cross; baptism is death. The cup is the suffering and death on the cross, baptism (like Jonah in the great fish) is His suffering in death for three days and three nights.

Acts 2:31 — The NIV says *grave*. That is incorrect; it is *Hades*. He went to the place reserved for death after the cross. (Our cup is experiencing death for Him when we die on the cross and get up there every day.)

Acts 2:24 — He suffered the agony of death. Death could not hold Him any longer than He said He would be there — three days and three nights. He went through unimaginable pain and suffering for us, untold agony for our abominations.

All our life together of obeying and abiding will make up for His three days and nights in death. We share in His death and so we will share in His glory (Rom 8:17).

Without the circumstances that cause suffering there is no way we can be related to Him. That is why we can rejoice in our suffering. It is the only way to be made like Him. This is His predetermined plan and purpose to gain people who love Him (Acts 2:23).

The cross was the cup. Verse 24 — God raised Him up from His baptism into the pangs of death. We've always heard He only suffered on the cross.

Heb 2:14-15 — Through death He delivered us. The only way to death was by the cross, He couldn't just take Himself down there. He had to go through death to rescue His captives like Lazarus (Luke 16) and the thief who descended with Him. When He went through death He ascended with His captives. The thief went with Him — Paradise was where Lazarus was in death. There the pangs of death were healed.

Because You will not abandon My soul to Hades (Acts 2:27). Soul — the life of me — you won't abandon the life of me to Hades. The *grave* in the NIV means death; decay is related to the tomb. The decay of

His lifeless body — why was it lifeless? His life was in death, in the center of the earth. Death is untold, inexpressible horror. There is not another chance in death to undo what's been said and done. The anguish in death pays for people's sins, then they wait for judgement. Our Master knew what death was. That's why He came to ransom us.

Salvation comes through Shem. He is the God of Shem. Yapheth and Cham have to submit to the God of Shem. Abraham and Yahshua came through Shem. This is going to cause marvelous submission and gratitude. The line of Shem retained the knowledge of God. The only way for Cham to avoid the second death is to be submissive to Shem (or Yapheth) when he's around. Cham can be turned around if we act kindly towards them, even when they are expressing their hatred.

We want to start relating to Him as our King and we as His servants.

Yonah: The living word stirs us up. It reaches something in our hearts that can't be reached any other way. It goes to the core of our being and kindles a fire. People have heard He died on a cross so much they say, 'So He died on a cross, so what?' It's even in me; I wish I had never heard it from Christianity, it's a polluted well. I want to hear it from a child's heart — it is actually the most amazing thing. The race is going to require everything of us till the very end.

One time I dreamt of death and saw the hopelessness of a person who would never have another opportunity again, who would never be resurrected. I'm thankful we have this paper to give to people. We need Him to reveal to us what death really is. Not only dying on the cross but even the death itself — going to death. Death couldn't hold Him, but it could have held us.

Sharon Rose: When I first heard of how Adam ate the fruit because of his love for his wife, I was so moved. I know this is going to win my heart that He would go to death with us. I don't want to make Him do that, after all He has already done for me. There's no one *holy* like our God.

Timshal: Something is stirring in me that I would see all these people walking by going to death and I wouldn't be stirred up enough to say something. I hate that. It takes something for the truth to sink in. We have to cry out to grasp what death is. What would cause someone to lift their voice? Love, that they loved people, that they were compelled to speak.

Can you imagine what the Scriptures say, that He was a lamb slain before the foundation of the earth. It was a predetermined plan. He got to Gethsemane and prayed till the last minute to make sure it was His will. (We want to explain to our children with appreciation for creation about the universe, Psalm 8 — all the billions of galaxies, black holes, the vast things.)

Shoresh: (impassioned) What I heard today was that our Father really loves the nations. The nations deserve so much. I wasn't going to the nations. I know I wouldn't be here without the effect of people on my life who were going to the nations. I couldn't do the things I needed to gain the nations.

He needs a ruling people for the nations. The nations can't do anything; they don't have an advocate before the Father. The standards in the nations are getting lower and lower and they can't do anything about it. The 7th day needs rulers. I want to overcome for their sake, so they don't have to continue to stay in death. He's given man everything he needs to make it. The shame of the gospel is being blown away because He's revealing to us what He is really like.

Racham: What Shoresh said helped me understand how the seed was preserved. I wasn't righteous. I didn't appreciate righteous men either. I was so affected by liberal thought. The second covenant helps people in the first death avoid the second death. Liberal thinking comforts people on the way to the second death. There are support groups in high school for homosexuals now. Children in high school haven't had their instinctive loathing of homosexuals educated out of them yet.

Our God has a standard and He has never changed it with regard to sexual immorality. But the standard in the world has changed and people need to hear God's standard in a way that they can hear it.

The other day someone did something kind to me. I said 'Thank you' but it seemed so little. What could I do to show my gratitude? (1 Tim 4:14-15).

Our progress isn't evident when we get into ourselves, but when we suffer and go on, it is. Our life is the only adequate way to express gratitude.

Deshe: Our Master's love drew me to Him. I never really knew how much He loved man. I didn't know the extent of His suffering and death. I'm thankful. When we see this He will win our hearts totally and we will be what He wants us to be. Without the teachings we would be like Sodom and Gomorrah. I'm becoming convinced who we are. Without the seed we would be just like Sodom and Gomorrah. Rom 9:29 is true, the whole world will become like them; that's why it is going to be fit for destruction.

Our Master knew His death would bring judgment — fire would cleanse the earth and all rebellion would be dealt with. The reality of every person being brought back to life and judged is astonishing. John 5 — Everyone will hear His voice. It says don't marvel, but I marveled — their molecules will be regathered, brought back to life and judged. We have heard His voice and we are alive! He has authority and power. He wants to invest His authority in us. How else will the dead (like we were) hear His voice without human vocal chords?

They are not going to hear it unless we die daily and judge every form of greed. Otherwise they will trickle in and trickle out. Our Master set His will to do His Father's will. Jn 5:30 — My flesh is strong; I can do things on my own initiative. He wouldn't because His heart was so close to His Father's heart. His judgment was absolutely true and just because He had no self-will. If we are to judge the world our will must correspond to His will.

I want to pray that my Father would take away all my indifference, that I wouldn't be a man-pleaser, just doing the right thing out of rote.

Prisca: I'm so thankful for a pounding heart, that blood rushes through my body and my heart pounds. I am so thankful I have a fear of death and that I see reality. Nineteen years ago I was so lost and the darkness was so great. I was so guilty and detestable. I was so dull going to destruction and I didn't even know it. Somehow in the midst of that I woke up and I was afraid of death. I started being drawn. I opened the Bible and read Romans 1 and it cut right through to my heart. I was terrified. I couldn't forget those words. I got a card about meetings at the Lighthouse. I went and I never left, never wanted to, never will. I'm so thankful for this paper. It is revelation, it is the leaves on the tree, it is the whole teaching.

Romans 1 is the good news — the gospel. We were chosen then without the gospel we comprehend now. Rom 1:16 — I never want to be ashamed of the gospel — it's the power of God.

This paper excites me. I love it. It's not going to draw the insincere. Some will be pierced to the heart. It's a challenge. We must know the paper to speak with confidence or we *will* be shot down. It's a challenge for us to hand it out.

2 Cor 5:18 — We go out with a message — fear God and live. I never knew how I was not going to be ashamed of the gospel. But life and immortality is being brought to light. We're learning who we are. I'm thankful the reality of death is coming to us because I really want to snatch people from that fire. I don't want to be indifferent. I want my life to be totally consumed, living for others, not myself, my problems or anything that would distract me from His purpose.