

APRIL 1

“SERVE HIM NO MATTER WHAT COMES YOUR WAY.”

READ

James 5:10-11, John 5:30

As a Christian, you will suffer. Be careful passing judgment on brothers and sisters suffering around you, because your time is coming. Job persevered without a Bible, spiritual friends, a church, or Christian music. He trusted God and had nothing but the grace of God to bring him through. We don't know how to handle others' suffering. We try blaming, rebuking, casting out, and even speaking against what God has allowed in their lives. How do we respond to suffering? We learn from God, and we lean on Him. We keep trusting. Job said, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him." We should worship, praise, and pray. Serve Him no matter what comes. At some point, you'll have a theological crisis: a conflict of what you've known and what you're hearing from God. Remember that God never contradicts Himself. Joseph honored God yet went to prison. Job obeyed yet lost everything. Sometimes God uses pain to mature you. None of us would choose this way of suffering. It hurts and it's hard. But God has planned an end that's better than you can imagine. The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us.

PRAY

Jesus, You endured suffering for me. You came to do the will of the Father. I pray the same today, "Not my will, but thine be done." You are compassionate and merciful.

From April 1, 2012