

APRIL 3

“WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH THIS GIFT OF SUFFERING?”

READ

Romans 8:18, Philippians 1:29, 3:10

Suffering is part of living by faith. We tend to think it is an attack from the devil. Suffering is not a consequence of faithless living, but rather a gift from God. Suffering is the process by which we are conformed to the image of Christ, and we will be rewarded for it. We have already been warned that trials will come, so do not be so surprised when they do. When your adversary looks you in the eye and threatens you, do not in any way be terrified. You can laugh and not fear, because it is proof of your salvation and it is a gift from God. What have you done with this gift of suffering? Are you always trying to get away from it? Are you trusting God through it? Through this gift, God will be glorified and you will be empowered. You can choose to be defeated by this, or say, “If God did not trust me, I would not have been entrusted with this suffering.” Remember during the fight that God is your source, your strength. This present time of suffering will pass away. Your greatest battle is with unbelief.

PRAY

God, I rejoice as You reveal Yourself to me more and more, day by day. Lord, I want to know You and the power of Your resurrection and in the fellowship of Your sufferings.

From October 18, 2015