SERIES: DO YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE? Part 8c: I Am Afflicted

"When I think of all this, I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus for the benefit of you Gentiles . . . ²assuming, by the way, that you know God gave me the special responsibility of extending His grace to you Gentiles. 3As I briefly wrote earlier. God Himself revealed His mysterious plan to me. ⁴As you read what I have written, you will understand my insight into this plan regarding Christ. 5God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now by His Spirit He has revealed it to His holy apostles and prophets. 6And this is God's plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by God's children. Both are part of the same body, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because they belong to Christ Jesus. 7By God's grace and mighty power, I have been given the privilege of serving Him by spreading this Good News. 8Though I am the least deserving of all God's people, He graciously gave me the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. ⁹I was chosen to explain to everyone this mysterious plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning. 10 God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display His wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was His eternal plan, which He carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 Because of Christ and our faith in Him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence. 13So please don't lose heart because of my trials here. I am suffering for you, so you should feel honored." Ephesians 3:1-13

How to understand suffering and grow through it: Embrace the fact that you will experience suffering in life

I. Suffering from sin

Ephesians 3:13

- I. Suffering from punishment
- III. Suffering from consequences
- IV. Suffering from demonic influence
- V. Suffering from victimhood
- VI. Suffering from being a part of a group that is victimized
- VII. Suffering from discipline
- VIII. Suffering that comes from the ungodly
- IX. Suffering that comes when someone we love suffers
- X. Suffering that is meant to be preventative
- XI. Suffering that is part of the end times before Jesus comes back

How to respond when we S.U.F.F.E.R.:

S	_ God for the	instead of	the		
Ephesians 3	:1, 14				
J	your faith to r	ot	up		

F	God's	for His glory	Notes:
Ephesians 3:1	0-11; 1 Timothy 1:13-17		
F	that affliction makes	our suffering	
Ephesians 3:4	-7; Romans 15:8		
,	,		
	how suffering actuall	y us	
Philippians 2:3			
R	that suffering		
your			
Hebrews 2:10			