

Anointed Suffering

Bitter Soul > Why is light given to those in misery, and life to the bitter of soul, to those who long for death that does not come, who search for it more than for hidden treasure, who are filled with gladness and rejoice when they reach the grave? Why is life given to a person whose way is hidden and whom God has hedged in? For sighing has become my daily food; my groans pour out like water. What I feared has come upon me; what I dreaded has happened to me. I have no peace, no quietness; I have no rest, but only turmoil. (Job 3:20-26)

Death Longing > Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once, an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." (1 Kings 19:3-5)

Fresh Mercy > I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve over my loss. Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this: the faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. I say to myself, "The LORD is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!" The LORD is good to those who depend upon him, to those who search for him. So, it is good to wait quietly for salvation from the LORD. (Lamentations 3:20-26)

Powerful Weakness > So to keep me from becoming proud, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger from the enemy to torment me and keep me from becoming proud. Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Corinthians 12:7-10)

Suffering Heirs > The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God's children, and if children, also heirs of God and coheirs with Christ - seeing that we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. (Romans 8:16-17)

Surrender Prayer > Jesus told Peter, James, and John, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." Jesus went on a little farther and bowed his face to the ground, praying, "My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine." (Matthew 26:38-39)



Tearful Agony > I am worn out from my groaning. All night long, I flood my bed with weeping and drench my couch with tears. My eyes grow weak with sorrow; they fail because of all my foes. Away from me, all you who do evil, for the LORD has heard my weeping. The LORD has heard my cry for mercy; the LORD accepts my prayer. (Psalm 6:6-9)