

Suffering

by W.R. Inge

Suffering is a blessing when done by God's will, and it makes us grow in virtue and become more like Christ.

Scripture: Matthew 5:10, Romans 8:18, 2 Corinthians 4:17, 1 Peter 4:13

Topics: "Suffering", "Redemption"

Description

W.R. Inge emphasizes that men who love God do not complain about their sufferings; instead, they see their suffering as small compared to God's will for them. Their blessedness lies in suffering according to God's will. Inge highlights that when a man bears suffering for God's sake, God transforms it into something light and sweet, bringing love and comfort. He explains that true suffering is noble and a mother of all virtues, suggesting that if there was anything more noble than suffering, God would have used it for mankind's redemption.

Transcript

MEN who love God are so far from complaining of their sufferings, that their complaint and their suffering is rather because the suffering which God's will has assigned them is so small. All their blessedness is to suffer by God's will, and not to have suffered something, for this is the loss of suffering. This is why I said, Blessed are they who are willing to suffer for righteousness, not, Blessed are they who have suffered. (434)

All that a man bears for God's sake, God makes light and sweet for him. (45)

If all was right with you, your sufferings would no longer be suffering, but love and comfort. (442)

If God could have given to men anything more noble than suffering, He would have redeemed mankind with it: otherwise, you must say that my Father was my enemy, if he knew of anything nobler than suffering. (338)

True suffering is a mother of all the virtues. (338)

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/wr-inge/suffering/>

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