

SOME THINGS GOD WANTS US TO CONSIDER
PART 4—CONSIDER CHRIST’S SUFFERING
HEBREWS 12:1-3

Introduction

The last three weeks we have been looking at some things that Scripture says that God wants us to consider!

We said that the word “*consider*” is defined as “*To view attentively; to view or examine with attention; to fix the mind on, with a view to careful examination; to think on with care.*”

In the first message we saw that we are *TO CONSIDER THE LORD!*
In the second we saw that we are *TO CONSIDER HIS CREATION!*
In the third we saw that we are *TO CONSIDER CHRIST’S PERSON!*

Today I want us to see that God wants us to **CONSIDER CHRIST’S SUFFERING! (Read Hebrews 12:1-3)**

I. WHAT ARE WE TO CONSIDER ABOUT CHRIST’S SUFFERING?

A. He Endured The Cross!

First there was the agony of what led up to the cross—
The agony in the Garden of Gethsemane as He prayed in anticipation of what He knew was ahead for Him!

Mark 14:34—“...My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death.”

Luke 22:44—“And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

Although this is a very rare phenomenon, bloody sweat (hematidrosis or hemohidrosis) may occur in highly emotional states or in people under great stress. As a result of hemorrhage into the sweat glands, the skin becomes fragile and tender.

Then there was the agony of the betrayal by Judas with a kiss.

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There was the agony of the **arrest** and being bound and led away at which time he was **abandoned** by His disciples. The band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees who held Him **mocked Him** and **beat Him with their fists**. They **spat upon Him** and **blasphemed Him**.

He stood before Annas first, then Caiphas the High Priest where one of the officers hit Jesus with the **palm of his hand**. Others **spat upon Him**, then covered His face and **beat Him with their fists** and **mocked Him** some more.

Then at daybreak, Christ underwent a **trial before the Jewish Council**—at which time He was questioned and **falsely accused!**

Next, they led Him to Pilate where they began to make **false accusations** against Him as an insurrectionist against Caesar and the Roman government.

Pilate handed him off to Herod where He was again **falsely accused** by the chief priests and scribes. Herod **mocked Him**, and **arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe**, and sent Him back to Pilate.

Then Pilate had Jesus **scourged or flogged** with a cruel whip, and a **crown of thorns** was put on His head and **driven into his skull with a wooden rod**.

When that did not satisfy His accusers, Jesus was finally **sentenced to death by crucifixion**.

The scourging had produced deep stripe-like lacerations and appreciable blood loss.

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This is thought to have set the stage for hypovolemic shock, as evidenced by the fact that Jesus was too weakened to carry the crossbar to Golgotha.

At the site of crucifixion, Christ’s wrists were nailed to the crossbar of the cross and, after the crossbar was lifted onto the upright post, His feet were nailed to the post. The major effect of crucifixion was an interference with normal respirations. Accordingly, death normally resulted primarily from hypovolemic shock and exhaustion asphyxia (i.e. suffocation)

Jesus’ death was ensured by the thrust of a soldier’s spear into His side. So, Jesus died a most torturous death on the cross of Calvary! Death by crucifixion was, in every sense of the word, excruciating (Latin, *excruciatatus*, or “out of the cross”).

But, Jesus willingly endured the cross for you and for me!

B. He Despised The Shame!

- 1. There was the shame of being falsely accused.**
Mark 14:55-56—“And the chief priests and all the council sought for witness against Jesus to put him to death; and found none. 56 For many bare false witness against him, but their witness agreed not together.”
- 2. There was the shame of being spat upon repeatedly.**
That’s one of the worst ways I know of as to how to denigrate somebody!
- 3. There was the shame of being mocked repeatedly.**
He was mocked by those who arrested and held Him!
He was mocked by Herod and his men of war!

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He was mocked by the Roman soldiers who crucified Him!

- 4. There was the shame of being forsaken by His disciples and denied by Peter.**
Mark 14:50—“And they all forsook him, and fled.”
- 5. There was the shame of being stripped naked at times as He was abused.** (*Matthew 27:28*)
- 6. There was the shame of being numbered with transgressors.**
Mark 15:27-28—“And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left. 28 And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.”
- 7. There was the shame of being taunted while on the cross.**
Mark 15:29-32—“And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, 30 Save thyself, and come down from the cross. 31 Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others; himself he cannot save. 32 Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him.”

*He Endured The Cross...He Despised The Shame...
All for you and me...*

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C. He Endured Contradiction Of Sinners Against Himself!
(Vs 3; 1 Peter 2:22-24)

We could look at NUMEROUS examples in the Scriptures of the Scribes, Pharisees and the Sadducees finding fault with Jesus!

Luke 4:28-29—“And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, 29 And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong.”

Luke 5:21—“And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?”

Matthew 11:19—“The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children.”

Matthew 12:24—“But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.”

- 1. Though He Was Called A Sinner, He Did No Sin!**
Calling someone a sinner, doesn’t make it so!
Jesus could not sin because He is God in the flesh!
- 2. Though He Was Reviled, He Reviled Not Again!**
Reviled = “To reproach; to treat with contemptuous language. To blast with infamy and hate”
- 3. Though He Suffered, He Threatened Not!**
Could Jesus have caused all kinds of problems for each of those responsible for His crucifixion?

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Yes, He could have, but He didn’t!

4. He Committed Himself To Him That Judgeth Righteously!

1 Peter 4:19—“Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.”

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II. WHY ARE WE TO CONSIDER CHRIST’S SUFFERING?

A. We Are To Consider Because We Are So Called!
(1 Peter 2:21)

2 Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

Matthew 10:24-25—“The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. 25 It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?”

B. We Are To Consider Lest We Become Wearied And Faint In Our Minds! (Hebrews 12:3)

This takes us back to last Sunday evening’s message on “Don’t Faint”.

2 Corinthians 4:1—“Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;”

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2 Corinthians 4:16—“For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.”

Galatians 6:9—“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”

Conclusion

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He Despised The Shame...

He Endured Contradiction Of Sinners Against Himself!

WHY ARE WE TO CONSIDER CHRIST’S SUFFERING?

We Are To Consider Because We Are So Called!

We Are To Consider Lest We Become Wearied And Faint In Our Minds!

Psalm 126:3—“The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.”