



## Sacrifice over Comfort

Romans 12:1 (ESV)

*I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.*

- There are things that can only be built through the refining fire of suffering.
- Bringing glory to God can happen through pleasure and comfort, and it can also happen through suffering and sacrifice.

Mark 8:34-36 (ESV)

*And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. <sup>36</sup> For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?*

- We deny our good in order to take up God's best and that will sometimes lead us to walk through suffering.

Colossians 1:24-25 (ESV)

*Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, <sup>25</sup> of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,*

James 1:2-4 (ESV)

*Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

2 Timothy 4:5-8 (ESV)

*As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. <sup>6</sup> For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.*

- The benefit of suffering and sacrifice is that we become more like Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:28 (ESV)

*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,<sup>[a]</sup> for those who are called according to his purpose.*

- To live light is to accept the invitation from the King to get in the yoke with Him.