

The Suffering Messiah

Following a cross-bearing Messiah requires that disciples likewise take up their cross

Matthew 16:20-28

I. Introduction: Mimicry in nature and in humanity

II. Jesus must suffer (20-23)

Why did Jesus charge the disciples to tell no one that He was the Messiah? (20)

Jesus MUST suffer and die, but also be raised – “theology of the cross” (21)

Jesus rebukes Peter’s “theology of glory” (22-23)

Satan’s M.O. is to deny suffering and promise glory

What branch of the “theology of glory” have you adopted?

III. Jesus’ disciples follow suit by taking up their own cross and dying to self (24-26)

Self-denial and cross-bearing is the call of every disciple (24)

Romans 6:5a – *we are united with Christ in a death like his*

Christian suffering is both, passive and active

Various ways we die to self

Self-preservation leads to death; self-sacrifice leads to life (25-26)

Matthew 25:31-46

An invitation to come and die

IV. A foretaste of glory divine (27-28)

Recompense and reward are coming!

The glory is yet to come – Jesus is coming!

Romans 6:5b – *we are united with Christ in a resurrection like his*