

Chapter 19
Jesus the Suffering Servant
Opposition to Jesus

P. 119 Read and answer the questions.

Sorrow: "Through sorrows you _____"

"Because Jesus suffered he received Glory"

P. 119 Jesus willingly...

What does this show? His love...

What does the Transfiguration teach us? _____

"This is My beloved Son, with whom I am
well pleased; listen to him"

Matt. 17:5

The Transfiguration experience strengthened the faith of Peter, James, and John.

Suffering: "Suffering accepted with faith can make you

Strong, open (empathetic), loving

By listening to Jesus, we can learn how to meet both joys and sorrows.

P. 120 Complete the Wall of Opposition, then answer this question.

When you face opposition, do you remain true to your goal, to stay united to Jesus and to follow God's will rather than your own will?

Chapter 19-Opposition to Jesus

Complete p. 121 "From Death to Life", answering #1-5 below:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Read Luke 7:11-17

"I believe in the communion of saints...the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting"

The Creed

"The Christian Views Death"

P. 122 List the "advantages of death for faithful Christians" and then think about and write why you, personally fear death.

Advantages

+ _____

+ _____

+ _____

+ _____

Your Fears of death

P. 122 What does the book say in 1st paragraph on the right hand column of the page about "Why are we afraid?"

What will give us strength to act like Jesus and accept our fear and give ourselves with trust into the hands of our Heavenly Father?

Suffering

It is certainly wrong to consider suffering as the worst of all evils, and to make its eradication our supreme goal. It makes us aware of evil; it is not an evil in itself...

We may be sure that the value of every individual is in proportion to the extent, the subtlety, and the depth of the sufferings of which he is capable, for it is suffering which gives him the most intimate communication with the world, and with himself. The extent, the subtlety, and the depth of all the joys he can ever know are in proportion to them. Who would renounce the joy in order to escape the suffering, and desire insensibility in their place?...

It is suffering that deepens our consciousness, plowing it up, making it understanding and loving, scooping out a refuge in our souls into which the world may be welcomed. It refines to an extreme delicacy our every contact with the world. The real problem is

not to find a way to anaesthetize suffering. The problem is how to transfigure it. And if all the suffering in the world offered us no better alternative than revolt or resignation, one might well despair of the value of the world. For suffering acquires meaning only when it nourishes the flame of our spiritual life.

My suffering is mine; it is not me. If the self gives way before it and becomes one with it, it succumbs. But there is another possibility – to remain detached from it without ceasing to feel it, and in so doing, to possess it. In this tension, the individual within us is at once present and transcended.

LOUIS LAVELLE

Louis Lavelle († 1951) was a professor at the Sorbonne, Paris, France, and was a prominent Christian philosopher.

