

SUFFERING OF CHRIST

- I. Opening Prayer: **Lk 11:14-22**
- II. 30 years private life; 3 years public ministry; 3 hours suffering.
- III. Creator does not find room in his own creation. No room in the Inn.
- IV. Waited until his human nature, which He had assumed, was at full development and reached its peak of proportion and loveliness, before handing it to be crucified.
- V. He was baptized for our sins. From that moment forward, He connects His baptism with His crucifixion. See **Matthew 3:1-6; and Mark 10:38**
 - a. He invades the realm of sin.
 - b. “He took our infirmities; he bore our diseases.” **Is 53:4**
 - c. Luke often has Him sigh.
- VI. Step by step, He replaces Adam’s disobedience with obedience: He accepts the Father’s will, even unto death. He returns to a garden; He toils and sweats for His fruits willingly; He faces Satan without flight; He accepts the Father’s plan on how He will become like God in His humanity; He accepts suffering, even death. Compare His passion in the Gospels to **Genesis 3**: the curses of Adam and Eve.
- VII. Adam and Eve wrecked the human body, soul, and spirit, incurring an un-payable debt.
- VIII. Agony of our Lord: In Every dimension, He has to sum up this debt—bodily, psychologically, and spiritually.
 - a. Physical
 - i. Beatings
 - ii. Whippings
 - iii. Crowning with thorns
 - iv. Carrying of the Cross
 - v. Nailed to it.
 - b. Mental:
 - i. We find this difficult, because we think that physical suffering is more difficult than moral. Plus, we get used to sin and do not realize its horror. The innocents understand its horror more than the experienced.
 - ii. He takes upon Himself the iniquities of all the world. He becomes a “SIN-BEARER.”
 - iii. Mocked and embarrassed.
 - iv. Conflict
 - v. Apprehension
 - vi. Fear
 - vii. Loneliness.
 - viii. This is all experienced not because of weakness, but by choice.
 - ix. Look at **Hebrews 2:17; 4:15**
 - c. Spiritual:
 - i. “My God, why have you abandoned me?” Sheen says that this is why Christ can save the atheist or someone in mortal sin. He is now able to save even someone who has rejected Him.
 - ii. Now what is offered to us in this life is the spiritual redemption.
 - iii. He took on our eternal debt, we still live the temporal as cooredeemers.
- IX. After sanctifying our humanity, He thus offers it now to us, only in faith. Read **John 6!**