

Sermon: “*The Company of the Suffering*”

I. It is a select company.

II Corinthians 1:3-5

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.

II. It is – for a time – a sad company

John 10:33-35

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. “Where have you laid him?” he asked, “Come and see, Lord,” they replied. *Jesus wept.*

III. It is a sovereignly designed company

Psalms 24:1-2

The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it

IV. It is a stumped company

Luke 13:4-5

“Those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”

V. It is a sympathetic company

I Corinthians 12:26-27

If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.