

Who is Jesus?

Our Example - How to Suffer

Points to Consider

1. Jesus was Always Honest
2. Jesus Did not Retaliate
3. Jesus Trusted God

Jesus was Always Honest

1 Peter 2:18-25 *Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. 19 For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. 20 For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. 21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: 22 "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"*

We are rewarded when we suffer **wrongfully** for Christ's sake. (See Matt. 5:10-12)

Jesus is the **ultimate** example of suffering wrongfully and suffering for doing good.

Jesus **never** sinned and never deceived.

Matt 12:9-14 *Now when He had departed from there, He went into their synagogue. 10 And behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. And they asked Him, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?" — that they might accuse Him. 11 Then He said to them, "What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out? 12 Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." 13 Then He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and it was restored as whole as the other. 14 Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him. NKJV*

The Pharisees wanted to **kill** Jesus for healing a man with a withered hand.

John 5:16-18 *For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath. 17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working." 18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.*

After Jesus healed the lame man at the pool, the Jews persecuted Him and sought to kill Him.

Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth

Luke 23:1-5 *Then the whole multitude of them arose and led Him to Pilate. 2 And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King." 3 Then Pilate asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?" He answered him and said, "It is as you say." 4 So Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no fault in this Man." 5 But they were the more fierce, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee to this place." ... 13 Then Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, 14 said to them, "You have brought this Man to me, as one who misleads the people. And indeed, having examined Him in your presence, I have found no fault in this Man concerning those things of which you accuse Him; NKJV*

Deception was at the very core of the charges the Jews made against Jesus. The phrase "perverting the nation" means distorting the nation. Pilate understood the charge as misleading the people.

The truth was that he never told anyone not to pay taxes to Caesar and He was Christ, a King.

John 18:37 *Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." NKJV*

Jesus did not deny the truthful charge that He is a king.

Matt 26:73-75 *And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you." 74 Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. 75 And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly. NKJV*

Deceit was found in Peter's mouth when he was facing persecution.

Jesus Did Not Retaliate

1 Peter 2:23 *who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten... NKJV*

Matt 26:52-54 *But Jesus said to him, "Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. 53 Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? 54 How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?"* NKJV

Jesus set the tone for the proceedings by telling Peter not to defend Him or retaliate against the Jews.

Matt 26:65-68 *Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, "He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! 66 What do you think?" They answered and said, "He is deserving of death." 67 Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands, 68 saying, "Prophecy to us, Christ! Who is the one who struck You?"* NKJV

The high priest accused Jesus of blasphemy. He accused Jesus of speaking evil against God.

The scribes and the elders declared that Jesus was deserving of death. They humiliated Jesus by spitting in His face, slapping Him, and ridiculing Him.

Matt 27:27-31 *Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. 28 And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. 29 When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 30 Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head. 31 And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified.* NKJV

The Roman soldiers joined the fray by stripping Him of His clothes and His dignity.

Jesus did not revile or threaten any of the Roman soldiers.

Luke 23:39-43 *Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us." 40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." 43 And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."* NKJV

When the criminals reviled Jesus, He forgave the one who accepted the consequences of his sin and defended Jesus. Jesus promised the penitent criminal a home in Paradise.

Luke 23:32-34 *There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. 33 And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. 34 Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."*

Jesus did not ask God to take vengeance on His enemies, He asked God to forgive them.

Jesus Trusted God

Matt 26:36-39 *Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." 37 And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. 38 Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me." 39 He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." NKJV*

Jesus, knowing the pain and humiliation he would have to endure, willfully submitted His will to God's will!

Luke 23:44-46 *Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. 45 Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. 46 And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.'" Having said this, He breathed His last. NKJV*

In the end, Jesus knew there was no better place to be than in God's hands.

When Jesus suffered He was always honest, did not retaliate and trusted God.