

Finding Purpose in Suffering with Love *with Saint John Paul II*

The Purpose of Suffering

“Suffering is present in the world in order to release Love, in order to give birth to Works of Love towards neighbor, in order to transform the whole of human civilization into a Civilization of Love.”¹

Love Gives Meaning to Life

“Man cannot live without Love. He remains a being that is incomprehensible for himself, his life is senseless, if Love is not revealed to him, if he does not encounter Love, if he does not experience It and make It his own, if he does not participate intimately in It.”²

The Cross Reveals Perfect Love

The Cross of JESUS CHRIST revealed and encountered is “a Radical Revelation of Mercy [and] Love... a touch of Eternal Love upon the most painful wounds of man’s earthly existence.”³

ISAIAH 53:5 – The Suffering Servant

But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities:
the chastisement of our peace was upon Him;
and with His stripes we are healed.

I PETER 2:21 – He Who Suffered for Us

For even hereunto were ye called:
because CHRIST also suffered for us,
leaving us an example,
that ye should follow His steps:

I JOHN 4:7 – To Love as He Loves Us

Beloved, let us love one another:
for Love is of GOD;
and every one that loveth
is born of GOD, and knoweth GOD.⁴

¹ “Love is The Explanation of Everything.” Saint Pope John Paul II. Quoted in article, “Saint John Paul II.” Fr. Stan Fortuna, CFR. The Magnificat, October, 2014, p 310, para 1.

² Encyclical, “Redemptor Hominis – The Redeemer of Man,” #10, para 1. Saint Pope John Paul II. 3/04/1979. http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_04031979_redemptor-hominis_en.html

³ Reference 1, p 309, para 3. Saint John Paul II, aka Fr Karol Wojtyla, was Pope from 1978 to 2005.

⁴ All Scripture is in The King James Version.