

THE COST AND BLESSING OF CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

HEBREWS 10:32-34; 12:28-13:3 (ESV)

I. True Christian sympathy is not _____ only—it expresses itself through _____.

A. Sympathy begins when (1) we see another Christian _____ and (2) we put ourselves in their shoes, in an effort to _____ and associate with their pain.

B. Sympathy stirs our affections to want to _____ their _____ by sharing in it.

1. Christian sympathy may mean suffering with another person for an _____.

II. Christian sympathy is a necessary overflow of a life _____ by the _____.

A. The whole Christian life is intended to be _____: an act of honoring God.

B. The first expression of that life of worship in Hebrews 13 is _____, including Christian sympathy.

III. While Christian sympathy is costly, its _____ outweigh the _____.

A. God has _____ to _____ those who exercise Christian sympathy.

1. The blessing of Christian sympathy sometimes comes through the _____ we care for, but...

2. Sometimes that blessing comes through _____ means.

3. When I am showing sacrificial Christian sympathy, there is a unique sense that you're doing _____ alongside and with _____.

B. When we exercise Christian sympathy, it is a sign of God's _____ in and through us, which should also _____ us.