These scriptures reflect the theological truth that Jesus did not dismiss human suffering but entered into it fully to bring about redemption and ultimate victory over it.

## 1. Isaiah 53:3-5 (Prophecy of the Suffering Servant)

"He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

This passage prophesies the suffering of Christ, illustrating that Jesus embraced humanity's pain and suffering to bring about redemption.

## 2. John 11:33-35 (Jesus Weeps at Lazarus' Death)

"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."

Jesus' response to Lazarus' death shows his empathy and willingness to experience the grief of humanity, even though he knew he would raise Lazarus.

## 3. Hebrews <u>4:15-16</u>

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Jesus experienced human struggles and suffering firsthand, making him the perfect mediator who redeems and offers grace.

# 4. Philippians 2:6-8

"Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!"

This passage highlights Jesus' willingness to fully enter human suffering, even to the point of death, demonstrating his mission to redeem and overcome it.

### 5. John 16:33

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Jesus acknowledges that suffering is part of life but reassures his followers that he has ultimately overcome the brokenness of the world.

#### 6. Revelation 21:4

"'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

This points to the ultimate fulfillment of Christ's redemptive work—overcoming suffering and bringing eternal peace.