

After Losing Everything, New Christian Book Explores How Suffering Forms Endurance, Character, and Hope



Chicago, Illinois Mar 1, 2026 (Issuewire.com) - During the most difficult seasons of life, people face an existential crossroads: allow pain, anger, and bitterness to define them, or surrender to the transforming love of God. In his forthcoming book *Suffering Leads to Hope*, James Velissaris offers a

deeply personal and theologically grounded exploration of how suffering, when surrendered to God, becomes the foundation for endurance, character, and lasting hope.

Suffering Leads to Hope does not promise escape from pain. It offers transformation through pain. Drawing from personal testimony, biblical theology, and psychological insight, Velissaris traces the progression outlined in Romans 5: suffering produces endurance; endurance produces character; and character produces hope.

Written largely during his time in federal prison, the book carries unusual weight. Once a successful Wall Street executive who enjoyed professional success and financial abundance, Velissaris experienced public failure, personal loss, and incarceration — a season that stripped faith of abstraction and tested it in lived reality.

The book has already drawn strong early praise.

“*Suffering Leads to Hope* is one of the most raw and spiritually honest books I’ve read in a long time,” said Emily Lisa T. Chief Editor at WolfTone Editorial & Publishing. “James does not write from theory — he writes from lived experience. His journey through loss, anger, and surrender is deeply reflective and intellectually grounded. This book honors pain and gently guides readers toward redemption and meaning.”

Born in the back seat of a car just outside Chicago in 1984, Velissaris was raised by a single mother working two jobs to support five children. Against significant odds, he attended Harvard University, earning a bachelor’s degree in Economics, and later completed a master’s degree in Operations Research at Columbia University’s School of Engineering. He also pursued formal theological study, including coursework at Harvard Divinity School.

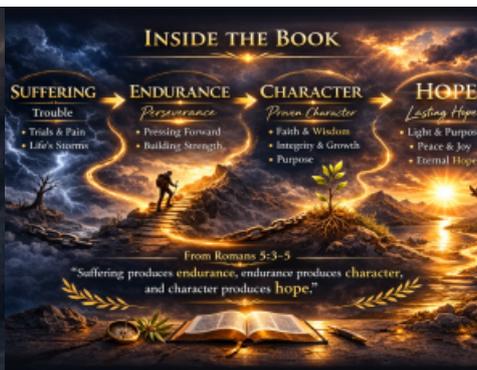
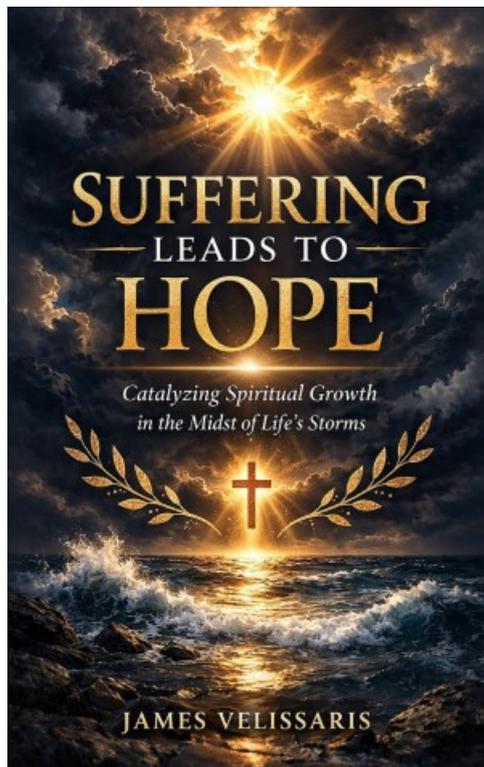
After seventeen years on Wall Street — working in investment research, portfolio management, and serving as Chief Investment Officer — Velissaris encountered the most profound spiritual transformation of his life through suffering and incarceration.

“Suffering exposes the foundation in which we are building our lives,” Velissaris writes.

Suffering Leads to Hope is published by Calibration Media and will be available May 24, 2026, through major retailers.

For more information, visit:

www.calibrationmedia.com



SUFFERING
For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.
- 2 Corinthians 1:5

ENDURANCE
...the one who endures to the end will be saved.
- Matthew 10:22

CHARACTER
If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above...
- Colossians 3:1

HOPE
Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.
- Romans 12:12

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