

The Problem of Pain - Part II

By Bill Shiley

Kingdom Fellowship Weekend, August 21,2020

Part II – Truth to Help Us Cope

“This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.” Lam. 3:21

Does God Care???

- Ps 50:18-21 - We tend to feel that because God doesn't do something about evil, that it doesn't _____ Him.
- Isa 53:4 - Surely he hath borne our _____, and carried our _____.
- Mt 23:37 Jesus allowed _____ do its worst to him to deliver us from its _____.
- Lam. 3:22
 - God _____ deeply for us in a new way every day
 - God is RICH in _____! (not wanting to give us what we deserve)

Does It Matter?

- Stuffing and toughening up _____ up things that will explode later and _____ part of you that senses _____ pain.
- Learning to _____ on your heavenly father's shoulder leaves nothing in the _____ you can't face and fills you with _____ to radiate to others.

What Is God Doing About Evil?

- Rom. 1:18
“Let no man talk of murderers escaping _____, and hint that Providence must _____. There were twenty score of violent deaths in one long minute of that agony of fear.” – Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist
- 2 Thess. 1:7,8 - Evil is a _____ thing. God will meet out justice and vengeance on evil and evil beings

Is God Punishing Me???

- Ps. 130:3 The LORD is _____ and gracious, _____ to anger, and abounding in mercy.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our _____, Nor _____ us according to our iniquities.
- 13 As a _____ pities his children, So the LORD _____ those who fear Him. 14 For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.
- Rev. 3:19 - God has no interest in making us _____ for what we've done or getting _____ with us
- God _____ and _____ us through all of life

What about people who don't know better?

- Ac 10:34 ¶ Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, [Now I Realize that God doesn't have _____: but in every nation, the one who _____ God and does what he knows is right is _____ by Him.]

God is a Redeemer

- God in His character is so good that even _____, when He touches it becomes _____!
- Eph. 2:10 “Poema” - When we surrender to God, we become His _____, a demonstration of His _____, passion, and purpose.
- Rom. 8:28 - Whatever he allows is because he has _____ designed through it for those who yield to His _____.
- Rom. 8:29 - His purpose is that we become _____.

Determinism or Foreknowledge and Sovereignty?

- God does not write ours or other’s _____
- He does know the _____ we and others will make
- He _____ good through those interactions, for those who he knows will choose to humble themselves and follow him

Job

- Job is “Perfect and Upright”
- Job loses everything
- Job asks WHY????????!!!!!!!
- God shows up and takes Job on a virtual _____ walk
- Job finally has a chance to ask his questions
- Job has no _____.
- He has decided he can _____ God.
- When Satan tries to do evil, he unwittingly does _____ work in those whose hearts are turned toward him.
- We don’t really want answers. We want a _____!
- The answer to pain and suffering is that God shows us _____ – that we have a good Father who is with us and will _____ what is happening
- Psalms 84:11 “no good thing will he _____ from them that walk uprightly.”
- Isa 64:1,4 “For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that _____ for him.

Can We Trust Him?????

- God the Redeemer & Hubbell Ultra-deep Field
- God the Surpriser and the Mandelbrot Set “The Secret Code of Creation” -Dr. Jason Lisle

In Context!

- Our context – me, my _____, the people I _____ about.
- Joseph _____ the “evil” into good by his choice to follow God
- Satan wants you to look at the casket and think, “_____ is ____.”
- When do we _____ on God?

The Blessing of Pain

- Pain lets us know we have a problem
“God whispers to us in our pleasure, speaks in our conscience, but _____ in our pains. It is his _____ to rouse a deaf world.” -C.S. Lewis
- Pain _____ evil – “the Curse”
- Pain _____ our hearts that this is not our home
- Heb 2:10 - Pain is the anvil on which _____ is formed
- Pain is _____ in the good it produces

The Solution

- Matt. 4:17 A kingdom - a _____ of people living God’s way NOW!
- Isaiah 65:17, Rev. 7:15 - The ultimate _____ of heaven and earth (_____ realm & _____ realm)

Redemption of Evil through suffering

- 1Pet. 2:21, 2 Tim. 2:12 – 23 - Suffering is not a nuisance to be _____ but an atomic _____. It is God’s way of turning evil to good.

Examples of Redemption of Evil through suffering

Handling grief

- Reality – _____ what happened.
- Lament – _____ – value what was lost!
- Deeper Reality – How does who God is change my _____?

Helping the hurting

- Be willing to _____
- _____ with them that weep
- DON’T lob Rom. 8:28 _____!
- Don’t _____
- People don’t want answers – They want a _____
- Be an ambassador – Let them _____ that God loves and cares
- Listen!!! Suffering alone is like living in a _____ chamber!
- _____ with them.

The Choice

- 1Cor. 10:22 - Do we think we will make God _____ bad? We are the _____ if we quit.
- Ultimately God lets us drink the cup of our way till we are _____ enough of it that we are ready to accept something else and _____ what it takes to make it happen.
- Heb 12:5 Shall we not much more readily be in _____ to the Father of spirits and _____?
- 1Pe 5:5-6 Therefore _____ yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your _____ upon Him, for He _____ for you.