

Bay Life Church Message Notes

Sunday, Oct. 5, 2014

Lead Pastor Mark Saunders

Grace & Truth In Times Of Trouble (Part 1)

The number one question people would ask God: “Why is there pain and suffering in the world?”

God’s grace in our lives can make things good.

- Job was a good man.

1 *There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.*

Job 1:1 ESV

- Job was a successful man.

2 *There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. **3** He possessed 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, and 500 female donkeys, and very many servants, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east.*

Job 1:2-3 ESV

- Job was a family man.

4 *His sons used to go and hold a feast in the house of each one on his day, and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them.*

Job 1:4 ESV

- Job was a prayerful man.

5 *And when the days of the feast had run their course, Job would send and consecrate them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, “It may be that my children have sinned, and cursed[a] God in their hearts.” Thus Job did continually.*

Job 1:5 ESV

There are forces that come against the grace God gives us.

6 *Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. **7** The Lord said to Satan, “From where have you come?” Satan answered the Lord and said, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.” **8** And the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?” **9** Then Satan answered the Lord and said, “Does Job fear God for no reason? **10** Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and*

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*his possessions have increased in the land. **11** But stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face.”*

Job 1:6-11 ESV

- All suffering is the direct or indirect result of sin.

12 *When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam’s sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.*

Romans 5:12 NLT

- Satan is committed to seeing us suffer.

Why didn’t God create us without the capacity to to sin?

God allows sin and Satan to produce suffering in life.

12 *And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your hand. Only against him do not stretch out your hand.” So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord. **13** Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house, **14** and there came a messenger to Job and said, “The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, **15** and the Sabeans fell upon them and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you.” **16** While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, “The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them, and I alone have escaped to tell you.” **17** While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, “The Chaldeans formed three groups and made a raid on the camels and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you.” **18** While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, “Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house, **19** and behold, a great wind came across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young people, and they are dead, and I alone have escaped to tell you.”*

Job 1:13-19 ESV

Why does God allow us to go through suffering?

- Sometimes He allows suffering to make our faith evident.

20 *Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped.*

Job 1:20 ESV

- Sometimes He allows suffering to make our faith stronger.

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2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, **3** for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. **4** And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

James 1:2-4 ESV

- Sometimes He allows suffering to get our attention.
- Sometimes He allows suffering and we just don't know why.
- In every hurt, God wants us to glorify Him.

21 And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

22 In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong.

Job 1:21-22 ESV

7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. **8** Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. **9** But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. **10** For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

1 Corinthians 12:7-10 ESV