

Living Waters Ministries

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So What About Suffering And Sicknes?

The Lord of Love is the God of Compassion...

Lk. 7:13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

Lk. 10:33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him..

Mk. 6:34 And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

Mk. 8:2 I have compassion on the multitude..

Compassion moves toward those in need... so reach out to Him in faith...believing.

(I Jn.4:8, 16) God is love... ...for he who comes to God must first believe that He is, and that He is a rewarded of them who diligently seek him (Heb.11:6).

By love we know *the Lord of love* and come to Him seeking – and He rewards us openly. *So what is your response to suffering?* It is hard to see or to even think of our Lord willing or to allow suffering when there is so much of it already in a fallen world which lays in the lap of the devil (I Jn. 5:19). *Suffering....* Please don't get mystical on me... please look at what the Bible indicates as *sufferings* origins! First above it was due to the devil and then of course sin itself. The fall of man brought with it death into a perfect world (Rom.5:12).

(Ex 20:5; Deut. 5:9) ...visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me...

Sin itself caused the fall and has continued to bring suffering in this present world, but outside of sin, and suffering for the sins of others what else do we see? Some say that *suffering brings perfection*. Some say that *suffering brings about righteousness*, some that *their suffering is teaching them something*. Some are suffering and don't know *why*... Some suffer due to their own sin, or maybe suffering just because of *their ignorance*...(Hos.4:6).

Without a doubt something I always think about when talking about *suffering* is how many pull out their Bibles and start to quote from Job *in the Old Testament*... how the Lord tested Job for his righteousness, faith, devotion or perseverance , etc. (Job 1:8). While there is something to learn from Job's example in the Old Testament in the New Testament we aren't given tests to rate our righteousness because we have learned from the Law that we don't have any *righteousness* on our own. Now to say that the Lord is *testing us* is to *try* something that has come by reason of *Grace alone* (Eph.2:8). Why would the Lord *test* something already merited by Jesus Christ?

Ok, let's call it a test of *faith* then. Why would the Lord *test our faith* by sending *evil or temptation* upon us *or even to allow these sufferings to abide*... so they say to provide further character perfection??? To be *able to relate better* to those who have been through *sufferings*, some would add...(?) The fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5) have now become the attributes of our character by His provision, of which without them is only the works of the flesh which are condemned as sinful.

My answer to the *point of view* in relating to those who *suffer*, as children of God... it is the Lord at work in us ministering... to those need... so loving compassion should already be a *fruit manifested* if we are to call it ministry at all...(?)

James tells us...

Jas. 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted (tested), I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil (not having evil to begin with), neither tempteth he any man...

According to Scripture we are not to say (let no man say) that the Lord *tests* us with *evil* or *temptations*, or *allows suffering* to perfect us, or transform us into His character. If anything, *suffering* brings out in us what is already there inside of us by His Spirit!!!!...

Job's origin of *suffering* wasn't because he had sinned. Job *suffered* from the *attack* of the enemy. The origin of the *suffering* of sickness was from the devil! It seems as we look into the following Scripture that *the disciples* had not learned this from the book of Job. The book of Job would repudiate this thinking about *suffering* and *sickness* from *personal sins* or *parental sins* or *generation curses*, but Jesus knew they hadn't caught this insight and taught His disciples here *and healed this man!*

John 9:2-3 His disciples asked Him, Rabbi (teacher), who sinned, this man or his parents, that he should be born blind? Jesus answered, It was not that this man or his parents sinned, but he was born blind (due to the fall on man and the origin of Satan) in order that the workings of God should be manifested (displayed and illustrated) in him. AMP.

In others words – *the devil was at work* in this person's life causing this *suffering* and *sickness* and it was high time to put the devils works OUT OF BUSINESS!

If we are to understand *suffering* and *sickness* correctly we should be looking at *our reaction and response to that suffering and sickness* when it comes, because it is *there* that we are mostly *at fault*. Most people will who believe that this *suffering* and *sickness* was placed there “by the Lord” to teach them something... will fail to act! Most people who *accept* their conditions as God's Sovereign will... will fail to act! I'm sorry to have to tell you this, I don't mean to be caustic, but most people who *trust in God's Sovereignty... this Cascara Cara whatever will be will be* “*attitude*”...are *not in the position* that the Lord *requires* in bringing healing...*they are contrary* and are doing so because they are seeking an excuse...excuse I say for their own *spiritual laziness* and their *lack of responsibility, response, and reaction* toward taking up God's Word daily which connects us to the Lord's person...where they can receive from Him His promises...and where the Spirit of God can *manifest His healing power!*

Know this... the Lord hasn't called men to live by *Sovereignty* He called them to live by FAITH! (Rom.1:17)

Are We Somehow Missing The Point??

As born again Spirit filled “Full Gospel” Christians *we should know already* the lesson that the disciples, at this time, failed to see! I'll explain. The disciples had the reactions of most people today concerning suffering:

1. Suffering for parents sins...or
2. Suffering for one's own sins
3. Somehow *God is trying to teach that person something...so why pray?*

Notice in the Jesus' Seminary – “What About Suffering And Sickness Class 101” what Jesus teaches, and demonstrates and manifests to His pupils in class...

1. Jesus taught that *suffering* sickness was because of the devil! (as in Job)
2. *Suffering* in the Dispensation of the New Testament is about setting men “FREE!”(Lk. 4:18; Mk.16:18)
3. Jesus demonstrates His WILL in this New Dispensation by **MANIFESTATION!**

Mt 8:3 And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Mk. 1:41 And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.

Lk. 5:13 And he put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him.

His one purpose is clearly... *to deal with the root of the problem* not speculate about the symptoms of suffering and sickness.

1Jn. 3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Lk. 5:15 But so much the more went there a fame (a report of His response to suffering and sickness) abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities.

Some people get so upset when we call ourselves “Full Gospel” implying that others out there are preaching and teaching *lesser* Gospels.... but if you don't preach or teach that *the Gospel and Salvation includes* within His atonement (Isa.53) Jesus' *ability and willingness* to heal your are not preaching and teaching the Full Gospel! People don't have trouble with accepting that the Lord has *the ability to heal....* the problem in their theology has always been the understanding of the Lord's willingness to heal!!! So when it comes to *getting people healed...* if you don't preach or teaching *healing...* small amounts, *if any...* people... *get healed.*

Mt 13:57-58 And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

It says here *not* that Jesus *couldn't* heal but that *He would not heal* because of their *unbelief*. They were familiar with him growing up in that area and had a major problem receiving Him as the Messiah. *Unbelief* is a major problem! His *reaction* was to *teach them...* His *reaction* and *response* was continued to be a demonstration and manifestation to bring release from *suffering and sickness!* People have to come into agreement with God's Word which represents the person of the Lord to receive.

An Unswerving, Settled, And Steadfast Faith

Jas 1:6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. The issue of the Lord's willingness needs to be settled first before we can move forward and receive from Him. Next faith requires our steadfast believing God's Word to us. We anchor ourselves to what the Lord says in His Word... *believing Him at His Word!*

Jesus has *not only reacted and responded* already in willingness to heal but also has released His healing waters which is known as *His mighty anointing* which brings HEALING!!!

Ezek. 47:8-9 Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed. And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh.

Let His healing river flow in your life....create an atmosphere conducive for the Holy Spirit to work in your life!!!

Surround yourself with Worship and Praise...Listening to the Lord Word on CD... Listening to Tapes on "Healing"... Anointing with Oil... praying the Prayers of Faith toward the Lord! *Be steadfast* in your believing God.

Set the captives FREE!

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon you!

Lk. 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

We have received a Great Commission! In this commission we are to go everywhere and bring release to the captives and healing.

Mk. 16:15-20 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

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