

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

October 21, 2018

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Romans 10:1-13

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *Does God Choose Who Will Be Saved?*
(John 15:16)

Announcements:

Next Sunday we will consider the frequently asked question of whether Christ died for all men, and whether men are predestinated to go to Heaven or Hell.

Assistant Pastor Paul Balbach will fill in for Dave Stewart in our Adult Sunday School Class next Sunday.

Halloween Gospel Tracts are available.

Midweek Bible Study: Wednesday night at 7 with Assistant Pastor Steve is postponed for this week.

Our offering box is located just left of the kitchen door.

Pick up today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone

Matthew 27:46 *Why Does God Allow People To Suffer?*

When people suffer, they ask God why. Even God's people ask why, because it feels like they have been forsaken by God. When that happens, they must do what the Lord did when *He* was suffering and God forsook *Him* (Mt.27:46). He was quoting Psalm 22:1 to show you he was *thinking* Psalm 22:6. He called Himself a worm to show that He understood He was suffering God's wrath on our sins, the wrath the unsaved will have to suffer in hell (Mark 9:45,46).

But if He knew why He was suffering, that must mean the only reason He asked God why was to teach us what to do when *we* are suffering, and that is to remember the Bible *reasons* we are suffering. So what are those Bible reasons?

Adam suffered because God told him he'd die if he ate of the tree (Gen.2:17). He died spiritually that day, but that day he also began a long, painful process toward physical death. The first time he got sick if he asked why, all he had to do to answer himself was do what the Lord did and remember the Word of God to him, and that would make it easier to bear.

I tell you this because Adam's sin is the primary reason why *we* have to suffer (Rom.5:12). We sinned in Adam, the way Levi paid tithes in Abraham (Heb.7:9,10). So we too must endure the long process of pain and suffering that ends in death that Adam did.

Then, the more we sin in our own lives, the more suffering in life we incur. We see this when Abraham failed to obey God's command to go to Canaan immediately (Gen.12:1). That gave Satan time to fill Canaan with his people (12:6), the kind of people God's people don't like to be around (Gen.13:13), the kind that vex us (IIPet.2:7,8). The other Canaanites were no picnic either, kidnapping Lot and making Abraham rescue him.

This reminds me to say that when we ask why God allows people to "suffer," we're not just talking about suffering *pain*, but also the things we have to suffer from our spouse, our kids, our boss, our neighbors, etc. Some of those

problems are from the effect of Adam's sin on them, but some we invite into our lives when *we* disobey God.

This gives us another reason we suffer, for Abraham was reaping what he sowed (Gal.6:7). We do too! If you sow evil you'll reap evil (Job 4:8), *much more* evil (Hos.8:7).

Those are the two primary reasons *all* men suffer, Adam's sin and our own. God told *His* people in Israel they'd suffer things like droughts and wild animals if they broke the law (Lev.26:14), so when they asked why they suffered those things they knew the answer (Jer.14:4; IIKi.2:23,24).

We're not under the law (Rom.6:15) but after telling the Galatians that, Paul reminded them they are still under the law of reaping and sowing (Gal.6:7). He told them that God is not mocked because when Christians hear we are not under the law they often think they can mock Him by living in sin.

But reaping what we sow is different than being punished for breaking the law. When Israel sinned God had to mess with the laws of nature to send a drought, but disobey Ephesians 5:18 all your life and you will destroy your own liver.

But why does God allow us to suffer from Adam's sin and what we sow? Why not spare us tribulation like He did for Israel (ISam.10:19). Because under grace He *uses* tribulation to work patience (Rom.5:3) and other good virtues. But Tribulation only works patience if we don't expect God not to let us experience sickness, etc. as He promised Israel (Deut.7:12-15). It only works patience if we stop and do what the Lord did and remember the Bible reasons we suffer, that it works patience in us and God's power is released in our suffering (IICor.12:7-9).

Suffering also works rewards for us (II Cor.4:16,17) *if* we look not at the things which are seen, but to eternal things.

Finally, God also comforts us to make us *comforters* (IICor.1:3,4), to take what we've learned in this message about the value of suffering and comfort others with it, and to find our all in all in the Lord (Ecclesiastes 7:14).

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

October 21, 2018

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Ricky Kurth

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

Myrtle Harrison

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger

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