

Why Suffering?

Where is God in our Sorrow?

(II Corinthians 1:1-11)

Roxborough Bible Chapel

September 3, 2017

Outline

- I. Types of suffering
- II. Why would God permit His people to suffer so much?
- III. What does God want me to learn through my suffering?
 - I. More about Himself
 - II. How to comfort others
 - III. How to reach out to others
 - IV. How to gain an eternal perspective
 - V. How to pray

Why Suffering?

- I. What are types of suffering?
- II. Why would God permit His people to suffer so much?
 1. Sometimes it is because of our own sin.
 2. In general, it is because we live in a fallen world

II Corinthians 1:1-11

- I. What does God want me to learn through my suffering?
 1. More about Himself - vs. 1-3
 2. How to comfort others – vs. 4-5
 3. How to reach out to others – vs. 6-7
 4. How to gain an eternal perspective – vs. 8-10
 5. How to pray – v. 11

“Blessings” by Laura Story

- We pray for blessings, we pray for peace
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep
We pray for healing, for prosperity
We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering
And all the while, You hear each spoken need
Yet love us way too much to give us lesser things

'Cause what if your blessings come through rain drops
What if Your healing comes through tears
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to
know You're near
What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise

“Blessings” by Laura Story

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We pray for wisdom, Your voice to hear
We cry in anger when we cannot feel You near
We doubt your goodness, we doubt your love
As if every promise from Your word is not enough
And all the while, You hear each desperate plea
And long that we'd have faith to believe

'Cause what if your blessings come through rain drops
What if Your healing comes through tears
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to
know You're near
What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise

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- When friends betray us
When darkness seems to win
We know that pain reminds this heart
That this is not,
This is not our home
It's not our home

'Cause what if your blessings come through rain drops
What if Your healing comes through tears
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near

What if my greatest disappointments or the aching of this life
Is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy
What if trials of this life
The rain, the storms, the hardest nights
Are your mercies in disguise

II Corinthians 1:1-11

- **2Co 1:1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy *our* brother, To the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in all Achaia:
- 2Co 1:2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 2Co 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
- 2Co 1:4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.
- 2Co 1:5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ.
- 2Co 1:6 Now if we are afflicted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are comforted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation.
- 2Co 1:7 And our hope for you *is* steadfast, because we know that as you are partakers of the sufferings, so also *you will partake* of the consolation.
- 2Co 1:8 For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life.
- 2Co 1:9 Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead,
- 2Co 1:10 who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver *us*,
- 2Co 1:11 you also helping together in prayer for us, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the gift *granted* to us through many.