



Why Does God Allow Suffering? - Part 2

Pastor Rick Hancock | August 11, 2019

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- **First Point of Light – God is not the creator of evil and suffering.**

- *God saw all that He made, and it was very good.* Genesis 1:31 NIV

- **Second Point of Light – Though suffering isn't good, God can use it to accomplish good.**

- God can use it to draw people toward Jesus – *For the kind of suffering God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation.* 2 Corinthians 7:10
- God can use pain to sharpen our character – *But we also rejoice in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope.* Romans 5:3-4
- God uses pain to lovingly discipline His own children for our own good – *But God's discipline is always good for us.* Hebrews 12:7-11
- God can accomplish something positive out of the negatives of life – *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.* Romans 8:28

- **Third Point of Light – The day is coming when _____ will cease and _____ will be judged.**

- Why doesn't God _____ now?

The Lord isn't slow about keeping His promises, as some people think He is. In fact, God is patient, because He wants everyone to turn from sin and no one to be lost.
2 Peter 3:9 CEV

God's delay is a show of _____ !

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

Revelation 21:4 NIV

Until then, His _____ is enough! 2 Corinthians 12:9

- **Fourth Point of Light – Our _____ will pale in comparison to what God has _____ for His followers.**

- This does not _____ our pain, but redirects our _____.

For our momentary light affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable eternal weight of glory. 2 Corinthians 4:17 HCSB

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. Romans 8:18 HCSB

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him. 1 Corinthians 2:9

- **Fifth Point of Light – We decide whether to _____ or _____ for peace and courage.**

I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world. John 16:33 HCSB

- Jesus promises us both _____ and _____ to face our suffering and pain.

The Lord is near the brokenhearted; He saves those crushed in spirit.
Psalm 34:18 HCSB

- You are _____ in your life's pleasures or pain.

Memory Verse

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. Romans 8:18 HCSB

Next Steps

- I will learn to keep my pain and suffering in perspective knowing that it won't last forever.
- I will learn to redirect my focus to what I will enjoy for all eternity, and not the pain I'm currently facing.
- I will choose to turn to God for His peace and courage rather than becoming bitter in the chaos of suffering.