

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Title: The Reality of Suffering

Series: God Still Guides

Text: Psalm 27

Purpose: I want to PERSUADE my congregation to believe that God has the power to take the suffering of our life and cause it to work for our good!

1 Timothy 4:13, “*Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.*”

Introduction:

Review of last Sunday’s devotional:

The Lamb’s Glorified Majesty

1. The Lamb, In His Humanity, EMPTIED HIMSELF, Philippians 2:5 - 11
2. The Lamb in the THRONE ROOM, Revelation 5:1 - 14
3. The Lamb’s MAJESTIC STATE, Revelation 5:1 - 14
4. The Lamb’s Glorious Return to RULE, Isaiah 11:1 – 9 and Revelation 20:1 - 6

~ Now I know that YOU know suffering is real; however, what I mean by the “Reality of Suffering,” is the Divine purpose of suffering in the life of the Believer. It is the path I am walking and NOT the destination that I have arrived at – yet.

~ Two inserts

~ Read Psalm 27

1. God Can Use Suffering to REFINE:

~ Hebrews 5:7 – 10, “*In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. (8) Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. (9) And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, (10) being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.*”

~ Matthew 10:24, “*A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.*”

~ 1 Peter 4:12, “*Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it come upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.*”

2. God Knows MY WAY (Nature):

~ Job 23:1 – 17

Verse 10, “*But he knows the way that I take; when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold.*”

Way – (H1870) derek: road, way, path, journey, direction, **manner, habit, way, of course of life, of moral character**

~ Psalm 27:4, “*One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.*”

Notice the result in verses 5 and 6

3. God Knows MY PURPOSE:

~ Psalm 27:8, “*You have said, “Seek my face.” My heart says to you, “Your face, LORD, do I seek.”*”

Remember Exodus 33:18, “*Moses said, “Please show me your glory.”*”

~ Matthew 22:37, “*And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”*”

~ Matthew 6:9 – 10, “*Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. (10) Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”*”

~ Insert

4. God Knows MY FUTURE:

~ Psalm 27:13 – 14, “*I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! (14) Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage: wait for the LORD!*”

~ Job 14:5, “*Since his days are determined, and the number of his months is with you, and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass,*”

~ Ephesians 2:10, “*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*”

Conclusion:

Philippians 1:6, “*And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*”

Closing Hymn: It is Well