

Human Suffering And God's Wrath

by Joe Slater Justin church of Christ Justin, TX

Atheists claim that human suffering proves there is no God. On the other extreme, some who believe in God assert that human suffering is always the result of God's wrath upon the one who is suffering. Truth, as we might expect, lies between the extremes.

Before sin occurred in Eden, there was no sickness, no pain, no hurricanes, no fires, no death. Beyond dispute, God allows such things to be commonplace now because of sin. That is not to say, however, that every episode of suffering is due to divine wrath against the sufferer!

Much of the misunderstanding stems from the false doctrine of inherited sin. I have engaged in discussions with people who believed little babies are born guilty of Adam's sin, and therefore God afflicts them with terrible diseases! But God Himself told Ezekiel that "the son shall not bear the guilt of the father" (18:20). God's own law given to Israel through Moses forbade punishing children for the crimes of parents (Deuteronomy 24:16).

Job's friends foolishly assumed his suffering was God's way of punishing him for his sins. The Twelve likewise presumed that a man's blindness from birth might be due to his parents' sin (John 9:2). The Lord corrected all of them.

Everyone has known of cases where the innocent suffer due to the sins of the guilty. Drunk drivers kill the innocent and walk away unscathed. Drug-addicted parents spend money on drugs while innocent children go without food and clothes.

Yes, suffering characterizes the world because of sin. But that does not mean every case of suffering is due to God's wrath against the sufferer.

NEWSLETTER

June 12, 2022

Mark Dailey, evangelist
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Schedule of Services

Our current schedule is:

Sunday Bible Class 10:00 AM

Sunday AM Worship 11:00 AM

La Salle
church of Christ

We Meet At

1121 N. Military Rd.
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Phone (716) 283-1214

Website: lasallechurchofchrist.org



We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you). We would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in one of the receptacles provided at the front and rear of the auditorium. There will be an opportunity to give but as a visitor it is not expected of you. Thanks.



There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs if you need to care for your infant.



Read God's Word

We offer a **free** Bible Correspondence Course

If you have an announcement or prayer request for the bulletin please contact Wayne Carter before noon on Friday.

Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent. Thank you.

James 5:16

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Prayers *In our prayers, let's praise God, recognize His greatness, thank Him for His Son and His blessings.*

Please pray as we continue our search for a gospel preacher.

Let's pray for the situation in the Ukraine and surrounding areas.

Let's pray for Christians in both the Ukraine and Russia.

Pray for the victim's families of mass shootings recently around the country.

Let's pray for those of our number who have been, and are, dealing with Covid.

Let's pray for Bill & Kris Kinney and all our families taking care of our shut-ins.

Frank Marsden Let's pray for him as he deals with a heart issue and also the recent loss of his sister.

Butts Sumner is scheduled for back surgery June 14 and also June 16.

Anna Brink Let's pray for her for health issues and also dealing with the effects of chemotherapy.

Diane Mellott is dealing with severe arthritis in her right hip causing her difficulty walking. She is scheduled for surgery June 29.

Samantha Mellott is dealing with diabetes and also a serious foot problem because of it.

Darlene Reed is feeling really well now after recuperating from surgery she had in March.

Hope Rice has been under the weather lately.

Maria Swindlehurst is dealing with several health issues.

Alison Parr, mother of Shawna Martinez, will be seeing a kidney specialist in the near future.

Sharron Gantt Let's pray that things continue to go well with her immunotherapy for bladder cancer.

Wilma Patterson Let's pray for her for health reasons.

Goldie Crow had eye surgery recently.

Glen Mueller Let's continue to pray for him and his family. Let's also pray for the Sardinia church of Christ.

Jack Curnew is dealing with eye issues.

Provost & Phillips families from the Southside congregation in Rochester. Jennifer's 28 yr. old nephew passed away unexpectedly May 26.

Anna Brink's 13 yr old nephew is dealing with the loss of his father and also bullying at school.

Lamont, Louella Hopkin's brother, had two heart aneurysms. Louella said last Sunday he has greatly improved.

Sharon Alcorn, Jessica Alcorn's sister-in-law, has terminal brain cancer.

Marietta McArthur (Ray McArthur's mother) is dealing with health issues.

Janine Galuppo, Ray McArthur's sister near Syracuse, is dealing with multiple health issues.

Bob Galuppo's mother in Syracuse is not eating due to severe dementia effects. Bob is Ray & Bev McArthur's brother in law and a member of Wetzell Rd. church of Christ.

Fran Fees brother & sister are dealing with medical issues and are hospitalized in Rochester.

Bruce Brink's aunt is having vision problems after having cataract surgery.

Upcoming Events (Lord willing)

Jun. 12 Today. Men's Business Meeting

Jun. 14 Flag Day

Jun 19 Father's Day also Juneteenth Day

Jul. 04 Independence Day

Weekly Budget Amount \$1,843.00

Contribution Last Sunday \$1,720.00

Attendance Last Sunday 42

Financial Reports and Meeting Minutes are posted in the back.

Mission Info Please check the *Mission Board* in the back.

Ukraine Relief:

John Kachelman, Jr. Cell (901) 626-4538 john@kachelman.com https://kachelman.com

For updated reports go to John's website and click on the tab for Mission Work.

Philippines: We support Caleb & Vanessa Callari doing mission work in the Philippines.

Caleb Callari's Radio Program - "Everyday Follower"

Do a search on YouTube for - Everyday Follower, School of National Evangelism - Philippines

Suffering As a Christian

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Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. 1 Corinthians 16:13

The morals of society have never been the same as those found in the New Testament.

Sometimes there have been similarities but at other times they have been far different.

The morals in this country have been drifting farther and farther away from Bible morals:

marriage is just a "relationship" subject to end for any reason; co-habitation before marriage is commonplace; perverted lifestyles are defended as acceptable; right-or-wrong has been replaced by "if it feels right, it's okay."

And many churches have fallen prey to such nonsense.

The challenge for Christians today is to stand firm for Bible morals, no matter who criticizes, or what the cost may be.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler; but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name. 1 Peter 4:12-16



Camp Agape 2022

July 24 - July 30

Camp applications are available.

Bev McArthur is available for more information.

