

P740

Grace Notes Radio Program

TITLE: Why do we suffer?

**SONGS: EVERY HEART THAT IS BREAKIN
I'LL TALK TO THE FATHER**

INTRO: Is God good? We say God is good when He has done something we think is good, like helping us land a great job or bringing our ship in. And we quote Romans 8:28, 'all things work together for good..and so on' But that verse really says, 'IN all things God works together for THE GOOD of those who love Him and who have been called according to His purpose. If God is good, then why do we suffer? That is our topic here today on Grace Notes. Thank you for joining in. Our host, Barbara Sandbek will share some comforting thoughts and Scriptures you won't want to miss so stay tuned.

Here are several points we should bring out about suffering.

First, we live in a sin filled world, beset with disease and decay on every hand. Sin is anything that is contrary to God's will or what He's ordered and desires. God knows best. He created us and He cares for us. It's hard to believe mankind doesn't naturally see this as a good thing and therefore follow His commands, but we don't.

Romans 3:23 tells us that everyone has sinned against God. There are no exceptions.

And Romans 6:23 says there's a penalty for sin. Not just that we have to live in a cursed world, but eternally.

Jesus' death and resurrection provided the way for eternal redemption. It is individually extended as a FREE gift to everyone who believes.

Once accepted, this salvation gift secures our eternity with Him. However, we can't expect to exist here unscathed just because we've received Jesus as our Savior and are being saved –(the key word in that statement according to 1 Corinthians 1:18 is that we are BEING saved.) Jesus continually intercedes for us to the Father to keep us that way.

Listen to Hebrews 7:24-25 Because Jesus lives forever we have a permanent priesthood. Therefore, He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him because He always lives to intercede for them.

Full salvation and freedom from even the presence of sin will only be realized when Jesus takes us to our

heavenly home and we receive our new sinless minds and bodies.

In the meantime, though, how are we to deal with suffering here?

It's all about focus. I remember that when I was using self-hypnosis to birth my first son, the doctor kept saying, "Focus on something good, like sitting on a beach". If I trashed around and screamed I would use up the oxygen needed to help the labor progress and cause more pain. And he was right.

We suffer when we focus on the problem rather than the Problem Solver.

Jesus said as recorded in Matthew 11:28, 'Come to Me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.'" The rest Jesus gives is soul rest. We do so need this. Often it is our soul that is tired and we don't even realize it.

**Corrie Ten Boom wrote;
Look within and be depressed.
Look without and be distressed
Look to Jesus and be at rest.**

Isaiah 26:3 reads,

You, (God) will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You because he trusts in You.

Suffering is inevitable but not intolerable when you reach out and touch the God of all comfort.

Are you hurting, lonely, feeling unloved?

God sees you. He knows you and He loves you.

Often our feelings seem stronger at night.

I believe the writer of this song understood that.

******* WRITER: TWILA PARRIS**

***** EVERY HEART THAT IS BREAKING *****

**Young abandoned husband
Pilgrim in the city
Son w/o FATHER - Solitary mother**

**Precious fallin daughter
Devastated father
Prodigal son
Child who's always hungry
Patriot with no country**

Jesus not only sees, knows and loves you – He understands.

God didn't withhold suffering from Him when he lived on this earth.

Isaiah 53:3 states that Jesus was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows & acquainted with grief.

Isaiah 53:10-11 says He suffered in HIS SOUL - MORE than we will ever suffer.

So when we go to HIM we can say, "LORD...feel my pain", and know he will respond because of His compassionate nature.

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4 reads,
Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Compassion and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.**

Lamentations 3:23 says His mercies are new every morning. Have you asked for them?

**That old hymn so rightly put it...
Oh what peace we often forfeit.
Oh what needless pain we bear.
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.**

Another reason for our suffering may be that God may be allowing the trial to help us better identify with someone else in theirs. We may be able to sympathize with their woes but we can only empathize, or enter into their feelings, if we've been there.

That reminds me of a story I read.

One day I came home to find two little girls on the steps next to my condo crying. I asked them if they were alright. One of them held up separate pieces of a doll. "My baby's arm came off", she said with a quivering lip. I took the two body parts, skillfully put them back together, and returned it to her. "Thank you", she said. I looked at her friend who also had tears on her cheeks and asked, "What's the matter with you, dear?" She replied, "I was helping her cry.

Romans 12:15 says, 'Rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep'.

One of the best ways we can comfort others is to say, "I'm praying for you", and do it.

***** **WRITER: Ronny Hinson**

***** I'LL TALK TO THE FATHER ****

Verse 1

***If you've got a problem – I'd sure like to share
There's one special way I can show you I care
I could offer opinions that might prove untrue
For the only sure answer – Here's what I'll do***

Chorus

***I will talk to the Father for you
And If I know the Father – here's what He'll do
He will lay at your feet all the things you pursue
It's no bother – for my Father will do it for you***

Verse 2

***I may never pray fire – down from the sky
But God sees every tear that ever falls from these eyes***

***SO if you've got a mountain – a road you can't climb
I'll take your burden – and I'll make it mine***

Chorus

***And I will talk to the Father for you
And If I know the Father – here's what He'll do
He will lay at your feet all the things you pursue
It's no bother – for my Father will do it for you***

Chorus

***Oh, let me talk to my Father for you
And If I know the Father – here's what He'll do
He will lay at your feet all the things you pursue
It's no bother – for my Father will do it for you***

Tag

Oh. It's no bother – for my Father will do it for you

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