**Finding Peace in the Face of Evil**

 **OBJECTIVE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

“…to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this. For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened, and you know.” 1 Thessalonians 3:2-4

*“Keep us in your faith and grant us your peace unto the end.”*

**I find peace by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*See Psalm 73*

*“For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.”* 1 Corinthians 13:12

# 1. God is NOT the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of evil and suffering

*“Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.”* Genesis 1:31

*“For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.”* Romans 8:22

# God can use EVIL TO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* **God can use pain to draw people to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*“For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.”* 2 Corinthians 7:10

* **God can use pain to make us more like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*“…we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.”* Romans 5:3-4

*“though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.”* Hebrews 5:8

* **God can use pain to lovingly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ His children for their own good**

*“For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.”* Hebrews 12:10-11

 *“But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.”* Genesis 50:20

1. **The day is coming when suffering will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & evil will be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*“The scepter of the wicked will not remain over the land allotted to the righteous…But those who turn to crooked ways the LORD will banish with the evildoers.”* Psalm 125:3-5

1. **Our suffering will pale in comparison to the future \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory*” 2 Corinthians 4:17

*“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”* Romans 8:18

*“"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”* 1 Corinthians 2:9

### We decide whether to turn \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or turn to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ FOR PEACE.

*“Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand. You will guide me with Your counsel, and afterward receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart fail; but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”* Psalm 73:23-26



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