

Victory In Jesus

Victory Over Suffering

- Introduction:
1. We're not long in this world until we run into suffering.
 2. (Job 14:1).
 3. Ills. Of Jack Higginbotham.
 4. Ills. Of poor children playing in dirt outside of broken down houses.
 5. The gospel of Jesus is truly, "Good News."
 - a. It contains an answer to suffering.
 - b. Not just an answer, but victory over the suffering of this world.
 6. Let's examine how Jesus gives us victory over suffering.

I. Suffering Makes Us Desperate People

- A. Have we ever said, "It's good enough for him," or "he got what he deserved?"
- B. This isn't Jesus' response to suffering.
- C. Suffering can be self-inflicted, and sometimes some suffer through no fault of their own.
 1. Self-Inflicted Suffering.
 - a. (Luke 7:36-50).
 - b. Jesus saw her suffering and responded to her.
 2. Innocent Suffering.
 - a. (Mark 9:14-29)
 - b. A father and his son are suffering from demon possession.

II. Suffering Makes Us Committed

- A. What's the likelihood of one who has come through suffering, to then give up?
- B. Suffering strengthens our resolve.
- C. Ills. Of 2 Maccabees 7.
- D. Maybe what we need in America, for the good of the world, is some persecution and suffering that snaps us awake out of our lethargy.

III. Suffering Allows Us To Bring Glory to God.

- A. (Exodus 14:1-31).
- B. While we may want to serve God in good health and prosperity, maybe poor health and poverty will make a great impact on the world.

- Conclusion:
1. Whether you're suffering due to your own poor choices, or through no fault of your own, Jesus cares.
 2. He won't remove our suffering now, but he has promised to remove it later.
 3. Ills. Elevator.
 4. I don't need to worry about what is next, because I know what is last!

