

COVID-19 Virus Series

Lesson #02

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Why Does God Permit Suffering

**How to Respond When Everything
Turns Upside Down**

ESSENCE OF GOD

Sovereign

Omniscience

Righteousness

Omnipresent

Justice

Omnipotent

Love

Veracity

Eternal Life

Immutability

Ten Reasons We Suffer

1. Adamic Responsibility; the result of the fall and sin. We are all guilty of Adam's sin.

Gen. 2:17, “In the day you eat thereof you will surely die.”

Rom. 8:18, “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.”

Rom. 8:19, “For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.”

Rom. 8:20, “For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope;

Rom. 8:21, “because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.””

2. Individual Volitional Responsibility

Gal. 6:7, “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”

3. Divine Discipline, punitive: an intensification beyond the natural consequences for the action.

Heb. 12:5, “and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, ‘My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor faint when you are reprovved by Him;

Heb. 12:6, “ ‘For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives.’ ”

Corrective or Disciplinary Suffering:

Job 33:19, “Or a person is chastened by pain on his bed, and with the continual strife of his bones,” ~NET

Prov. 3:11, “My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor detest His correction;

Prov. 3:12, “For whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights.”

Psa. 6:1, “O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your anger, nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure.”

4. We are associated with someone who is suffering for reasons 2 or 3.

5. Living in the Kosmic System.

5. Living in the Kosmic System.

1. Weather disasters

2. Economic disasters

3. Health disasters

4. Disaster related to war

5. Disaster related to relationships

6. A wake-up call evangelistically. Example: Acts 16 with the jailor. All of a sudden he was going to die because these guys were escaping.

7. Suffering Motivates us to Learn Doctrine.

Psa. 119:71, “It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Thy statutes.”

Categories of Suffering

Pedagogical or educational suffering

**Job 36:22, “Behold, God is exalted by His power;
Who teaches like Him?”**

**Job 34:32, “Teach me what I do not see; If I have
done iniquity, I will do no more?”**

Categories of Suffering

Pedagogical or educational suffering

Psa. 25:8, “Good and upright is the Lord; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.

Psa. 25:9, “The humble He guides in justice, and the humble He teaches His way.

Psa. 25:10, “All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, to such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

Psa. 25:11, “For Your name’s sake, O Lord, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great.”

Categories of Suffering

Pedagogical or educational suffering

Psa. 25:12, “Who is the man that fears the Lord? Him shall He teach in the way He chooses.

Psa. 25:13, “He himself shall dwell in prosperity, and his descendants shall inherit the earth.

Psa. 25:14, “The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.”

Categories of Suffering

Pedagogical or educational suffering

Deut. 8:3, “So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.”

Categories of Suffering

Pedagogical or educational suffering

**John 11:14, “Then Jesus said to them plainly,
‘Lazarus is dead.**

**John 11:15, “ ‘And I am glad for your sakes that
I was not there, that you may believe.
Nevertheless let us go to him.’ ”**

Categories of Suffering

Suffering to glorify God

John 9:3, “Jesus answered, ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.’ ”

John 11:4, “When Jesus heard that, He said, ‘This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.’ ”

8. To be a Witness to Neighbors, Friends, and Those Who Are Around us.

1 Tim. 1:16, “And yet for this reason I found mercy, in order that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience, as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.”

9. To be a Witness in the Angelic Conflict.

Eph. 3:10, “in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.”

10. That we Can Comfort Others with the Comfort with Which we Have Been Comforted.

2 Cor. 1:4, “who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”