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**❖SERMON NOTES ❖**

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Sunday, September 27, 2015

**“WHY DOES GOD ALLOW PAIN AND SUFFERING?”**

(John 16:33)

If you were given an opportunity to ask God one question, what would it be? In several different surveys over the years there has been a question that is consistently listed as the number one question that people would ask and that's the question we are looking at this morning. We may not know the answer to why but there are some things that we do know that can help provide hope and peace.

*“Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely”* I Corinthians 13:12 (NLT).

**What we do know:**

**God is not the \_\_\_\_\_ of pain and suffering.**

Genesis 1:31 (ESV)

Romans 3:23 (NIV)

Genesis 3:17-18 (ESV)

Romans 8:22 (NIV)

**Pain and suffering are \_\_\_\_\_ but God can use it to**

\_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

Genesis 5:20 (NIV)

**Pain and suffering \_\_\_\_\_.**

Romans 8:18 (NLT)

Revelation 21:4 (ESV)

1 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

**Our pain and suffering will \_\_\_\_\_ to  
what God has in store for His followers.**

1 Corinthians 4:17 (NLT)

Romans 8:18 (GNT)  
1 Corinthians 2:9 (CEV)

“Be courageous! I have conquered the world” (John 16:33, HCSB).

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If you were given an opportunity to ask God one question, what would it be? In several different surveys over the years there has been a question that is consistently listed as the number one question that people would ask and that's the question we are looking at this morning. We may not know the answer to why but there are some things that we do know that can help provide hope and peace.

*“Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror; but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely”* 1 Corinthians 13:12 (NLT).

**What we do know:**

**God is not the creator of pain and suffering.**

Genesis 1:31 (ESV)  
Romans 3:23 (NIV)  
Genesis 3:17-18 (ESV)  
Romans 8:22 (NIV)

**Pain and suffering are not good but God can use it to accomplish good.**

Romans 8:28 (NIV)  
Genesis 5:20 (NIV)

**Pain and suffering will end.**

Romans 8:18 (NLT)  
Revelation 21:4 (ESV)  
1 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

**Our pain and suffering will pale in comparison to what God has in store for His followers.**

1 Corinthians 4:17 (NLT)

Romans 8:18 (GNT)

1 Corinthians 2:9 (CEV)

*“Be courageous! I have conquered the world”* (John 16:33, HCSB).