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You Asked for It! Week of June 20

*“If God is All Powerful- then why does God allow tragedy and suffering”* Dr. Hays McKay

**Why didn’t God create a world with no tragedy and suffering?**

(Genesis 1:31) God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

**Where does tragedy and suffering come from?**

* 1. **Some is the result of our own sin.**

**2. Some is the result of other people’s sin.**

**3. Some is the result of Satan’s attack.**

**4. Most is because we live in a fallen world.**

(Genesis 3:18) It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

(John 16:33) “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

(Romans 5:5; NASB) and hope does not disappoint

(Job 1:1, 3) In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil.3 and he owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen and five hundred donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East.

(Job 38:12-21; NLT) “Have you ever commanded the morning to appear and caused the dawn to rise in the east? 13Have you made daylight spread to the ends of the earth, to bring an end to the night’s wickedness? 14As the light approaches, the earth takes shape like clay pressed beneath a seal; it is robed in brilliant colors.15 The light disturbs the wicked and stops the arm that is raised in violence. 16“Have you explored the springs from which the seas come? Have you explored their depths? 17Do you know where the gates of death are located? Have you seen the gates of utter gloom? 18 Do you realize the extent of the earth? Tell me about it if you know! 19“Where does light come from, and where does darkness go? 20Can you take each to its home? Do you know how to get there? 21But of course you know all this! For you were born before it was all created, and you are so very experienced!

(Job 40:4-5; NLT) “I am nothing—how could I ever find the answers? I will cover my mouth with my hand. 5I have said too much already. I have nothing more to say.”

1. **You are not alone.**

(Daniel 3:24-25) Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, “Weren’t there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?” They replied, “Certainly, Your Majesty.” 25He said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.”

1. **I know how you feel.**

1. **Pain has a purpose.**

(2 Corinthians 7:10; NLT) For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There’s no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death.

1. **Hang on to your Heavenly Father and don’t let go.**

(Habakkuk 3:17-19) Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls,18 yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.19 The Sovereign Lord is my strength

1. **The pain will be over soon.**

(2 Corinthians 4:17) For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

(2 Peter 3:9; NLT) The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.