



ANCHORS FOR YOUR SOUL

1. We live in a **SIN-CURSED** world

Romans 5:12 ... sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned...

Romans 5:19 ... through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners ...

Romans 8:20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

- A. Some suffering comes as a result of **MY OWN** sins
- B. Some suffering comes as a result of **OTHERS'** sins
- C. Some suffering comes as a result of **ADAM'S** sin

2. God the Creator is **SOVEREIGN** over all things

Colossians 1:16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Romans 11:36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

3. God does prevent some sorrow, but allows other suffering to occur in order to accomplish His **PURPOSES**

WHEN GOD CAUSES OR ALLOWS SUFFERING,
IT IS ALWAYS FOR A PURPOSE

Isaiah 55:9 "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
¹⁰As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,
¹¹so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

4. Even in the midst of suffering, the Bible tells us that we can know that **GOD CARES**

Hebrews 12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross ...

Philippians 3:10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

"I'd rather be in this chair knowing Him, than up on my feet walking around without Him."

—Joni Eareckson Tada

BIBLE READING PLAN

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Acts 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday: Acts 20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday: Acts 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday: Acts 21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday: Acts 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday: Acts 22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday: Acts 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Acts 23 |

Steve Benninger, Lead Pastor
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