The Cry of the Innocent

CLEAN TRANSCRIPT | ALL 9 ORIGINAL CHAPTERS

Finding the Ancient Path | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bDTtTRq8ECc

Chapter 1: The question of suffering

Amen thank you guys for the opening prayer uh here we are at the Cry of the innocent why does a just God allow suffering war and Devastation a Biblical inquiry and of course you know this question is probably the question of the ages isn't it it's probably one of those questions that everybody has had at one point in time in their life whether they are believing in yah or not they have this question they ask this question what's going on why so many innocent people dying I know people in my own family um use the question as a weapon against God they use it as um an excuse is the reason that they don't follow him and serve him it's a big question and I'm going to do my best this morning to answer the question from a biblical p perspective obviously it's a Biblical inquiry inquiry but at the same time I know that there are people.

In the world who don't even believe in the Bible so it's one of those kind of uh in between a rock and a hard place situations for people who are outside the eklesia and they use this question and they're unwilling to use the word the Bible as answers for the question so it's kind of a it's kind of a weird situation let's do our best here and get into it the race is not to the Swift nor the battle to the strong nor bread to the wise nor riches to Men of understanding nor favor to Men of skill but time and chance happened to them all for man also does not know his time like fish taken in a cruel net like birds caught in a snare so the sons of men are snared in an evil time when it falls suddenly upon them Ecclesiastes 9 there's a humbling aspect to this.

Statement made by Solomon and one that almost seems to challenge the sovereignty of the almighty when you read it and you understand that he's saying that time and chance happen to them all that's that's a interesting dichotomy when you when you look at that statement and and then jux depose it against the sovereignty of God how do you unify those two statements and I think the Bible does and I think we we can we're just going to have to take our time slowly here and work our way through it some opening.

Chapter 2: The biblical perspective

Thoughts across history the cries of the innocent have echoed through War torn lands disaster ravaged cities in the hearts of those who have suffered loss beyond measure in the face of unspeakable pain and Devastation the question arises with raw urgency if God is just Why why does he allow such suffering this this not a mere theological puzzle puzzle it's a deep aching question of those who have wept over Graves endured the horrors of war and watched as cruelty seem to triumph over righteousness we've all seen that for many this question is not asked in skepticism but in Desperate longing for understanding does the god of scripture see does he care and if he is Sovereign why does he permit such things these are not new questions as I stated in the opening slide but they remain among the most profound challenges of Faith or to our.

Faith demanding not easy answers but a sincere and biblical inquiry into the justice and sovereignty of God the sentiment of does God see does he care is he here is not something that's alien to the Bible the Bible is not silent on this we have examples like the one in John chap 11 where Lazarus died you guys know the story Yeshua was in Bethany and when he heard that Lazarus was sick he didn't leave right away and then the Bible tells us that he did eventually go to Jerusalem and Martha approached him and said Lord if you had been here my brother would not have died but even now I know that whatever you ask of God he will give you so in other words what was she asking where were you where was God so we also know in this same story that Yeshua wept this shortest verse in all the Bible that Jesus.

Wept and which is interesting because we know that he delayed in Bethany on purpose giving Lazarus a chance to actually pass and yet when he gets there he cries which tells us what he's sympathetic to the cries and pain and tears and yet Martha has the same question if you had been here where were you where was God so we see that the Bible is not silent on this this issue this question but in order for us to grasp.

Chapter 3: Baseline convictions

This and this is a deep thing it's not easy for some people to grasp we need to establish for ourselves a baseline I should say some baseline convictions here for those of us who say we believe and I would imagine that's probably everyone on this Zoom call and maybe everyone that's watching on Zoom or on YouTube for those of those of us who say we believe we must remember that to truly believe you must fully embrace who he says he is and what he is as described in scripture if we say we believe but struggle to trust his nature especially in times of disaster and death then we can't say that we fully believe and I'm going to give you an example of that here in a moment think Deuteronomy so I was reading Deuteronomy me yesterday I was I was I went to the lake to pray and there's a lake nearby my house here and I just drove out there in the rain and sat and prayed and i'.

Turned on my phone to a YouTube channel that does audible Bible verses and I was listening to Deuteronomy and in the first chapter of of Deuteronomy we what what do we see we see that them they're getting ready to go into the promised land and Moses is telling them God is telling them giving this land to you they come up with a great idea hey let's let's pick some guys to go spy out the land Moses says I'm going to pick out some guys the people said yes that's awesome we love that idea they selected 12 people as we all know to go spy out the land they're all fired up about it guys go spy out the land they come back and we know the story right 10 out of 12 of them had negative things to say faithless things to say about what they saw and two did not two were faithful so I write this verse.

Deuteronomy 134 and 36 the Lord heard the sound of your words and was angry took an oath saying surely not one of these men of this evil generation shall see that good land of which I swore to give your fathers except for Caleb the son of jeffina he shall see it and to him and his children I'm giving the land on which he walked because why because the new King James says he holy followed yahovah the word behind holy in the Hebrew is fully which implies what it's it's possible to not fully follow yahovah which is what some of these people did they did it in their language yeah we're excited excited about this the promised lands ahead of us let's spy it out we're we're excited here here's our guy from our tribe go look at it tell us but when the challenge came who they really were and what they.

Really believed of the lack thereof came to the surface and the father was listening and so I'm making the statement as we begin this study of ours that in order for us to fully understand what's going on here if we say we believe then we must fully believe we must fully believe that he is who he says he is in every situation the world has to offer good bad and ugly and.

Chapter 4: God's just nature

Here's my baselines I have three of them yah is perfectly flawlessly wonderfully and faultlessly just that's what the word tells us he is and we must believe it when we're trying to figure out the answers to our questions Deuteronomy 32 he is the rock his work is perfect all his ways are Justice he's a god of Truth and without Injustice righteous and upright is he if he is incapable of Injustice then in one sense we could probably end the study right here couldn't we because the the reason that so many people ask the questions that we began with is because somewhere in part maybe a little bit you want to blame God you want to accuse him of being unfair or not just or have done something wrong but yet the word tells us that he is without Injustice he is.

Righteous an upright so if that's the case and we believe it then there has to be something more there has to be another something I'm missing Psalm 89 righteous and Justice righteousness and Justice are the foundation of your throne a verse that we've looked at several times Mercy and Truth go before your face what does that mean that means wherever yah goes mercy and Truth arrive before him if that's even possible since he is everywhere he exists in every atom in the universe but mercy and Truth go before him and righteousness and Justice are the foundation of his throne Jeremiah 9 but let him who glory is glory in this that he understands and knows me but I am the Lord exercising loving kindness Justice and righteousness in the Earth for in these I Delight says the Lord this an interesting passage.

Jeremiah 9 if you're going to be glorying in anything and boasting in anything happy about anything then let him be happy that he understands these I don't want to say the word qualities because these aren't his qualities this is who he is his nature it is his nature loving kindness Justice and righteousness for in these things I Delight to deny that yah is perfectly just and I've made this point again in previous lessons is to undermine his moral Authority distort the foundation of divine judgment and risk embracing a world view where evil evil appears unaccountable and righteousness unrewarded so as a baseline we have to if we say we believe him and thus his word we have to hold on to this it's got to be an anchor in our lives as we approach these challenging questions the second one is like it yahs perfectly boundlessly.

Chapter 5: God's loving nature

Unconditionally and un failing loving Psalm 36 how precious is your loving kindness oh God therefore the children of men put their trust Under The Shadow of Your Wings how shall we read this Glen number two should we should we assume here that God's got wings like an angel no what's going on here well the father wears a to in my opinion and that's where Humanity got their idea of a toite in the first place I believe Yeshua will be wearing one when he comes back with the with the tassels of them resting on his thighs as he rides the horse so what is the wing well when you're wearing a toite and you open your arms it looks like you have wings and that's where that comes from and the children put their trust under the shadow of those wings it's a it's an image John chapter.

3 for God so loved the world we know this one right we could probably not even look at the screen and recite it right we've seen it in football games and baseball games that he gave his only begotten son that's a quintessential statement of his love and how far he's willing to go with his love and of course John again in first John 48 God is simply love why is that last one in larger text well because God doesn't love he doesn't have love he doesn't possess love like you and I we might think of someone that we're close to a friend or a family member and say man that brother is so loving he loves people so much and that's true we can't say that about God because he is love he is the source of love he is love defined and so it's important that we.

Have this as a baseline When approaching these difficult questions to deny that God is perfect in love is to distort his character sever the foundation of Hope and mercy and risk embracing a false image of a distant or indifferent deity rather than the one who redeems and restores and draws near in Covenant faithfulness so we have to understand the risk and what we really are saying if we cannot Embrace his love in scripture love is not sentimental as it is for us so so often nor optional covenantal sacrificial active and commanded it reflects God's character upholds his law defines righteousness motivates Redemption and sustains eternal life therefore love is the Supreme ethic in the universe because it's the highest expression of yah's Will and the most.

Complete reflection of His Image in humanity we must hold as Believers to the fact that he is love and finally the third yah and I typo there for some strange reason is absolutely infinitely unquestionably and unshakably Sovereign d David give me your best definition of sovereign on the Fly he has total Rule and control uh and everything kind of falls under his pre perview I think that would be a nothing is outside of his sight right he is he is Sovereign over all of his creation and that's what we see in scripture indeed Heaven and the highest Heavens belong to the Lord your God also the Earth with all that is in it 1 Chronicles 29 yours O Lord is the greatness the power and the glory the Victory and the Majesty for all that is in heaven and in.

Earth is yours yours is the kingdom oh Lord and you are exalted as head over all and you Reign Over All now these are interesting passages because in a moment I'm going to show you some things things that seem to challenge what Moses is saying here in regards to the sovereignty of yah Psalm 135 whatever the Lord pleases he does in heaven and on Earth in the seas and in all the Deep places he has got supreme authority he is Sovereign to deny God's perfect sovereignty is to reject his ultimate control over history and creation leaving one vulnerable fear confusion and a worldview where chaos not Divine Purpose governs all things now here is where we have kind of a snag isn't it more than any other character trait that's what you want to call them of the.

Almighty this is the one that is most often misunderstood and therefore the most resisted challenged and emotionally rejected by those who struggle to reconcile Divine control with human suffering because we struggle to reconcile his sovereignty with everything that we see going on in the world and everything that has happened in the world whether it be the Holocaust or earthquakes or floods or fires or Wars we resist we are challenged by and many of us were emotionally reject the idea of his sovereignty but we have to try to figure that out so he's absolutely loving just and Sovereign and I'm going to keep driving this point home for the man and woman of God these attributes of his nature must be and must always remain a Cornerstone of your belief in him for they Define not only who he is.

But also how we are to trust in him especially in times of pain and suffering his love ures that he is pure and without fault his Justice guarantees all things will be be made right in his time and his sovereignty confirms that nothing happens outside of his perfect wisdom and purpose the hold fast to these truths is to trust him without wavering to accept suffering without accusation and to endure trials without doubting his goodness job said though he slay me yet will I trust in him now that's a powerful statement made by job made by a person who probably experienced more pain and suffering and then any one person at any one given time in history for a reason why do you think the Book of Job is in the scriptures because it's important for us.

To see this this one thing that for us who say we believe we need to have job's resolve though everything seems to appear one way in my limited sight in my limited perspective in my limited understanding I will trust him who sees all these things that I am blinded to who understands everything that I can't understand and it's one thing for me to sit here and talk to you Believers and to say all these things because hopefully most of you are all saying to yourself yes amen amen amen but such comforting thoughts may fall on deaf ears to those who don't believe for them they need to understand what they don't know and they won't understand what they don't know because they refuse to search the scriptures for the answers like these because what we've.

Just gone over is the answer in part but we're halfway there maybe a third of the way there but we're getting there and unless you're willing to search his word then you may not be comforted by such thoughts go ahead David what I wanted to say while you were still while while you're we're trying to lay the foundation of some of.

Chapter 6: Man chooses a king

These things which may appear fundamental I think that's also part of the the issue right is that what is the true Godly biblical definition of Love of justice of sovereignty because I think that part of the reason why people go down the paths that they go is because their definition of what Justice is is not is it could be influenced by the world right or influenced by their thoughts and experiences which in some cases may be contrary to God's definition of what Justice really is and and to the to the last point that you made there you know God is very clear he says you know your thoughts are not my thoughts and my ways are not your ways right and so there's a clear distinction of that our understanding of some of these fundamental terms and.

Concepts is probably different than what you know God's definition is and so then when we measure things that are happening against our definition of what Justice is we say well he's not just and then we start questioning you know is the bible really true yeah absolutely and I'm a firm believer that there are going to be some things that you and I will just not ever have answers to like what would be a good answer for the Holocaust you who who in their right mind could offer a or articulate a basic answer for the Holocaust they can give their opinions but it may not be until the day that we're with him when we cross the Divide from knowing in part to knowing in full as Paul taught where we come into the understanding of these things that we look at each other up you.

Know with the Lord and go oh now I get it yeah now I now now I it's all it's all clear and and as a matter of faith we look forward to that moment amen we we have enough Faith to put our questions on pause again in part until that day when all things are made clear you you look pensive Glen number two did you want to say something okay all right well let's jump into this when man chose his King this

is this is probably the second part or the second most important thing that we have to understand in attempting to answer these difficult questions you must you you must go all the way back and understand the beginning many failed to to recognize that the fall of Man was not merely Adam's Act of sin but a deliberate choice of Allegiance in that moment he determined.

Whom he would obey we know the story well Adam was given all of creation God God gave him a choice of these things you can eat except for one thing don't eat this and then the serpent comes along puts doubt in Adam evees Adam and Hava in their hearts and they decided at that moment whom they would obey because what did they do they disobeyed yah and followed the enemy and with this decision the authority over Earth was transferred shaping the course of human history now this is where I was going when I mentioned the challenge to sovereignty because is in all things creation are all do they all belong to yah yes is he Sovereign over everything yes is he God over everything yes but however in this early moment in history there was a time when.

Mankind decided whom they would follow and therefore this right if you will the deed to Earth was transferred he basically he was basically given Satan was the deed to the Earth which I contend was the scroll in Revelation that no one could open except to lamb I I truly believe that there was a contract not the kind of contract that you and I necessarily know and understand but something here it gave the enemy hassatan rulership over the Earth we see in Luke 4 when he took Yeshua and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time he said all this Authority I will give you how could he give him that Authority if it wasn't his to give for this has been delivered to me when was it delivered to him I've contend it was in the garden when Adam.

Chose his Allegiance and I will give it to whomever I wish 2 Corinthians 4 but even if our gospel is veiled it's veiled to those who are perishing whose Minds the quote God of this age has blinded who do not believe so we see that patan is considered to be the god of the age who's blinding humanity and in 1 John 5 it says we know that we are of God and that the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one so what am I trying to say I'm trying to say that way back in the days of Adam and Eve Humanity as it were and it's just kind of it's kind of unfair because I wasn't there I didn't make the choice Glen wasn't there David wasn't there you weren't there the choice was kind of made for us that they would follow the leadership and ultimately the.

Lordship of the Fallen one the wicked one Yeshua declares Satan as the ruler of this world in John 12 now is the Judgment of this world now the ruler of this world will be cast out why is this important to our our answering of this question what we perceive or think our actions of God are in are actually actions of Satan yes and of man obvious and and of man right and is it safe to say that they are allowed by God if he has given them if he allowed him to rule the world yeah again think job did he did did did yah do these things to job no did he allow these things to be done to job yes for a reason and that's the there was an outcome there was something to come as a result of it right and that's the part our limited understanding struggles with many times exactly so who is the ruler of the world.

Who's in charge so to speak who has the deed well we know the scroll as a title deed to the Earth belongs to the ruler in ancient Jewish and Roman culture sealed Scrolls were often legal documents such as land Deeds there's an example of that in Jeremiah 32 given that Satan has gained authority over the world through Adam's sin this scroll represents the rightful ownership and Dominion of the earth which Yeshua alone could reclaim so who is the ruler of the world who is really behind most of the pain the suffering and the disaster it's the one who rules it why is this important to understand yah

and his sovereignty has allowed Satan temporary rule over this Fallen World due to Adam's choice that he remained in Ultimate control working all things according to his.

Purpose what does that mean so many of the things that Satan meant for Destruction he has used for growth he has used for blessings think about Joseph when he talked to his brothers you meant all these things for harm but what did God do with it for good he turned it into something good he permits suffering not because he's powerless or indifferent but because his Justice and righteousness require that sin run its course while his Mercy allows time for repentance though Satan has Authority for now yah limits his power and uses is even evil for his greater plan think job or Peter ensuring that in the end Yeshua will fully reclaim creation and restore all things so how can we look at this if we were to describe everything that I've showed you here in the last couple of slides our current existence.

Is like living in a third world country run by a warlord and you know what you and I having been born and raised in the United States have no idea what this feels like there may be someone in the audience who live in another land maybe you're watching on YouTube and you actually live in a country that's run by a warlord you understand this we don't we can't and therefore it's difficult for us to grasp the overarching theme at all but this what it's like our planet is like a third world country run by a warlord who was the warlord the enemy Satan and I put this here just for fun this is a story that every good Hollywood movies made from when you think about it Star Wars Lord of the Rings The Matrix it's the it's the original story of good eventually triumphing over evil yes that's where we get this notion.

At all in the first place that right now there is evil running a muck in the world some someday someday very soon all things will be restored and good will eventually triumph over evil I was just going to say that's part of the challenge that some people have.

Chapter 7: The purpose of affliction

Is life is not limited by you know a 2hour window that the story has to unfold and come to a an ending within that time frame right the the time continuing is is a lot longer and larger than our lifespan and you you know like it says in Hebrew 11 where people had faith and many of the things did not happen during these people's lifetime yet they still trusted they still had Faith uh and that's I think the challenge that some well many people have is that they are not going to be not going to have purview uh to experiencing or witnessing what the purpose God's purpose you know would have been on a particular uh SC yes incident or circumstance right and that's where faith comes in right and that's where True full trust like you're talking about over here yeah funny you said that David because just yesterday my wife and I were um having some time.

Together having a snack and at a restaurant and talking about these things and she reminded me about Abraham and how long it took for God's promise to for him to have a son took promised Abraham he would have a son Abraham didn't believe it of course because it was age he was on in years took years right for that to be fulfilled his promises it still happened in his lifetime it did his prophecy about Abraham's descendants being you know outnumbering the sand on the seashore you need see that happen that's right yeah same thing for for uh Jacob andri you didn't see those things happen that's true and and and sometimes times we we we see events happening in the world screen like a war like a disaster like this earthquake that just happened in Asia that are you know killing hundreds of thousands of people and we don't understand the.

Now we don't understand the reason for the now and it's it's it's up to us who are people of Faith to believe that and to hang on to that faith that something we don't understand now will be made made clear in the future so yes the impact of sin and Satan is universal Romans 5 therefore let me preface this before I read this verse what does that mean the impact of sin in Satan is universal he didn't this happen to Adam it just didn't happen to Hava or Eve Romans 5 therefore just as through one man sin entered the world and death through sin and thus death spread to all men because all sinned now this is something that a lot of people never take the time to sit and comprehend before Adam sinned there was no death death happened as a result of.

Sin and it spread to all men consequently this is something that David and I like to talk about that's how we know dinosaurs didn't live millions of man millions of years before Adam because that would have meant that death existed before Adam and no that's not the case as a result of the sin we have death and death spread to all men death how just spiritual death no death and the myriads of ways that you can experience death Adam's fall is why we have pain and death it is why we have corruption and Decay it is why we age with our bodies getting weaker and weaker and eventually die it's why we are susceptible to disease it's why we as humans are so capable of hurting each other our species chose whom we would follow and thus our Natures became like.

His we inherited this sinful nature so now all of creation is cursed all of creation not just Earth Genesis 3 then to Adam he said because you have heeded the voice of your wife and thus Satan and have eaten from the Tree of which I have commanded you saying you shall not eat of it cursed cursed is the ground for your sake in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you and you shall eat the herb of the field in the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground Romans 8 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which will be revealed in us for the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly awaits for the revealing of the sons of God for the.

Creation not the Earth all of creation was subjected to futility not willingly but because of him who subjected didn't hope because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the Glorious Liberty of the children of God for we know that the entire the full the whole creation groans and labors with birth pains together until now the impact of sin and Satan is is universal so what do we see in these verses we see curses toil laborsome work thorns and thistles sufferings futility bondage death and Decay corruption pain increased sorrow in childbirth sorry about that women sadness all of which are the direct result of the fall of Man a decision to sin these are the things that came into the world when we decided who our king would be this.

Was true for Adam then and it remains true for you and I today because of our sin these things are still still happening thorns and thistles sufferings you know you you guys you have all experienced this you've all asked the question why is this happening in my life what's going on it's the result of sin the toil the thorns and thistles how do you define thorns and thistles Glend number two consequences it's metaphorical but yes I mean it's it's yeah it's a consequence but in the agricultural world what's a thorn and thistle you're you're you're digging the ground and you're poking yourself with these thorns and you're dealing with these thistles extrapolate that into our everyday life in 2025 what would a thorn and this will be struggle yeah pain but I have to ask this.

Question what do you think are some human be behaviors as a result of the curses and the toil and the laborsome work and the thorns and the thistles and the sufferings and the futility and so on and so

forth frustration spair Rebellion against yah idolatry and false worship deception despair yes for sure pride and self-exaltation murder and violence sexual immorality corruption and Injustice greed and materialism addiction these are things and part that happen is a result of the curse of humanity and when you look at that list you go wow that's a list that can kind of Define our existence isn't it deception sexual imorality War murder violence greed materialism addiction corruption Injustice that is the world that we live in why am I driving this.

Home because this is the impact of sin not just for Adam and Eve but for us who live in this world today hatred unforgiveness gossip slander laziness neglect fear anxiety depression hypocrisy religious corruption the persecution of the righteous and the killing of Innocents all a direct result of sin why wh why why does why did God even do this if someone very close to me very close to me once said I didn't choose to be born into this when I try to explain things to them in these words words their response is I I didn't I didn't choose this yes I was born but I didn't choose to be born into this why is all this even happening pain and suffering brings about change suffering is one of the greatest paradoxes of our faith how can loving and gust the just.

God allow pain yet throughout scripture we see a Divine pattern Affliction is not without purpose pain is often becomes the tool that awakens a wavered heart suffering refines character hardship teaches dependence on the almighty if yah allows trials to come it's not because he Delights in our suffering but because he knows that sometimes only through Brokenness can a soul be made whole now I know this to be true on an individual level but again I hate to use this word twice extrapolate that to the globe if you and I are the microcosm then the planet is the fullness of the reality only through Brokenness can a nation become whole only through Brokenness can a world be made whole and so what what does that mean Glenn that means you have to allow the world to break.

Itself right would you agree pain leading to repentance and transformation we see this in scripture David says before I was afflicted I went astray stop what what what look at that first statement before I was afflicted I went astray but now I keep your word what's the implication there it was the affliction that drove him to the word right whatever that is whatever you're dealing with whatever pain is going on in your life whatever sorrow that one thing you don't understand but it's hurting it hurts it's driving you somewhere if you let it or you can just continue to go astray and be happy in your lostness which that's that's an oxymoron people don't get happy in their lostness because enough Affliction enough pain will get you to turn your head and look in the direction that you're.

Supposed to be looking Psalm 119 it is good for me that I have been afflicted for what reason that I may learn your statutes it's good yes you hate it yes you despise it yes you hate waking up every morning yes you hate looking at yourself in the mirror but it's good because it's leading you somewhere it's pointing you somewhere hoseah 6 come and let us return to the Lord for he has torn but he will heal he has stricken but he'll bind us up there's that attitude of job that I was showing you early on in the lesson though he slay me yet I will trust in him though he has torn me and by the way I can definitely say Glenn I'm sure you can too I know what it's like to be torn by God I know what it's like to be stricken by God but I also know what it's like to be bound by.

God yah's discipline producing righteousness he Hebrews 12 for whom the Lord loves he does what he chastens he disciplines he spanks he scores oh you know what a scorge is David you know what a scorge is cat a nine tails right nine pieces of leather with pieces of glass and sharp bone wound up in their tongs that's what they beat Yeshua with the Lord does this he chastens he scores every son whom

he receives so the pain that you're going through you want to accuse God of wrongdoing when actually he's doing it because he receives you as a son for you for you that's right for those who have been trained by it in other words words he's trying to train you Proverbs 3 don't despise the chastening of the Lord my son nor to test his correction For Whom the lord loves he corrects just as the Father the.

Son in whom he Delights job 5 behold happy is the man whom God corrects therefore do not despise the chastening of the almighty for he bruises o but he binds up he wounds but his hands make whole see this is where you as a Believer have to go I understand what non-believers don't I understand that yeah this bruise this wound to the onlooker might look unfair might look unreasonable I this car accident happened to me or I was hit by a truck or was kicked in the face by a mule or you know shot by Intruder name the name the event whatever it is as the believer we understand that he can use these things to correct to bruise to wound because at the same time we believe that his hands make whole I was just going to say I think that this goes back to the point that I was saying.

Chapter 8: Suffering on a global scale

Earlier about God's definition versus the world's definition and and all and and the concept that we're talking here about discipline right there yeah all kinds of quotequote scientific studies out there that talk about the effectiveness the humaness of specific types of discipline and people will argue and challenge the biblical definition of it right they may call it quote unquote abuse and the in the Bible by no shape or form encourages or condones abuse obviously the discipline is always loving is always with a purpose uh but but again when you say well that's not loving that kind of discipline or studies show that that doesn't produce results right and so that's where this this kind of again we need to go back to what is the biblical definition of some of these terms and to understand the the purpose and the way.

That they need to be implemented to be done in a Godly in righteous way to produce the results that God intends through those actions amen amen okay all pain suffering trials discipline have a goal for the individual as well as the Nations now this is a huge point that I'm getting ready to make here I want you to think this through all the things that we've talked about up to this point are really all about our personal individual situations but all that pain and suffering and trials and disciplines have a goal not just for me as an individual as but as but also for the Nations trials producing endurance and spiritual growth Romans 5 and not only that but we also glory in tribulations knowing we know that tribulation produces perseverance and perseverance character and character hope so there's this idea this aspect of as Believers we we know.

That these tribulations are bringing something causing something James chapter 1 uses the same word my brethren counted all joy when you fall into various trials knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience but let patience have its perfect work that you may be perfect and complete lacking nothing 2 Corinthians 1 is like it we were burdened beyond measure above strength so that we despaired even of life yes we had the sentence of death in ourselves that for what reason that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead okay why am i showing you those three verses pain and suffering has a goal not just for you you and I have read these verses a thousand times trying to apply them to ourselves which was good we should do that but the meaning of these verses also.

Applies on a much broader scale in our case for the source the case of our discussion a global scale tribulation pain suffering the things that you watch on the news the things that's happened in our human history produces something perseverance character hope patience completeness lacking nothing so we have to apply this not just on an individual level but we have to apply it on a personal level here's one of my favorite verses in all the Bible before I read it let me remind you that so much that we see in the Old Testament is reality real events happening in real time to real people that are there to teach us future spiritual deeper truths typology judges three these are the Nations which the Lord left left where to fight Israel that he might test Israel by them that is all who had not known any of the wars in.

Canaan this was only so that the generations of the children of Israel might be taught to know War War at least those who had not formerly known it do you see the depth in that verse for us for Israel he left physical real fighting Nations so that what so that Israel would know how to fight they would know War how does that translate to you and me he allows certain things in your life in the world so that you may learn the value of fighting spiritually against these things fighting in your character fighting in your heart for them again it was a very real physical battle for us it's not so much but they still remain he allows these issues to remain so that you who had not formerly known war let's just say babe a believer in Christ you're you're new to this understanding of the ways of the.

Lord and you had not Formerly Known spiritual war but he's going to make sure you do and that that through pain that through fighting again you may think that I understand this for me as a Believer but what about the Holocaust the numerous genocides throughout history cir Rouge the natural disasters and so many other needless deaths well what's true for you the believer it's true for the Nations it's true for the world this principle applies not only to individuals who see God but to entire nations whether they acknowledge Him or not throughout scripture God uses suffering Calamity and hardship as instruments to guide Nations toward repentance Justice and ultimately his salvation remember from our very first set of slides love is always the.

Goal where do we see this Dynamic happening in the scriptures Jeremiah 18 the instant I speak this is is the father speaking the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom to pluck it up to pull it down or to destroy it if that Nation against whom I have spoken does What Glenn number two turns from its evil I will relent of the disaster that I brought or I thought to bring upon it so what do we see here we see that the all these things that we've been learning about personal battles and personal sin and personal destruction and personal pain and suffering it applies to the Nations on a much larger scale for what reason to turn it from its evil think about Nineveh In Jonah Jonah chapter 3 it says and he cried out yet 40 days and.

Nineveh shall be overthrown this was this was Jonah's prophecy you know after he had to go through all the stuff he went through yeah but the Bible says the people believed him they proclaimed a fast they put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least of them then yah saw their words their works and he did what they turned from their evil way and then God relented from the disaster that he had promised upon him so here we see in action the very thing that Jeremiah said in chapter 18 that this Pagan Nation Nineveh was not part of Israel it was a pagan nation that the father was trying to get the turn from their evil ways and so he was send a prophet boy howy good for them they repented and they were spared now interestingly enough B nin repented in Jonah's time later generations of Nineveh returned to.

Their wickedness and yah ultimately judged them Nineveh was destroyed in 612 BC by the Babylonians you can read about this in the book of nah one of those books you never [Laughter] read so yes they were spared once but they later returned to their sin and their wickedness and the Judgment Came Upon them so contrast Nineveh to Sodom and Gomorrah Nineveh repented what did Sodom gor do they didn't repent and you know the story here guys right you know that Abraham argued with yah in order to be merciful right that wasn't so much an argument but you remember the story if I find 55 righteous people will you spare the city yes for 55 yes negotiation is a better word what if I find 45 what if I find 40 what if I find you know on every single turn the father was saying yes yes yes.

For 30 for 20 for 10 righteous people in the city I will spare it what does this show us about the nature of our God he he's not quick to destroy he's not quick to be vengeful on the Nations he promised Adam Abraham that he would relent his rebuke if even 10 could be found because he doesn't Delight in destruction remember love and Justice are the Foundation of his throne and we see that in scripture and if you're a a YouTube viewer who happened upon this because you were curious yourself and you're not yet a Believer I want you to see this I want you to see that he's not everything that you've been told and by the way the things that you're being told are being told you by the opposition that's FYI we see Babylon Jeremiah 25 then it will come to pass when 70.

Years are completed that I will punish the king of Babylon and that Nation the land of the C calans for their iniquity says the Lord that that was his promise punishment would happen as a result of their sin and of course we know that it happened so the goal is always love always blessings notice the two the the biggest difference in these two verses right here remembering that 1 hour, 5 minutes that which is true for the individual is also true for the Nations and that the goal was always love always blessings look at these two verses 2 Chronicles 7 when I shut up heaven and there is no rain or command the Locust to Devour the land or send pestilence among my people if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their Wicked Ways then I will hear from heaven and forgive.

Their sin and heal their land so right off the bat we look at that verse and we go okay what is he trying to communicate here is he trying to spank their hands and say no no naughty naughty you're being bad children no he's saying that if you turn your face and seek me and pray to me I'll I'll give you blessings I'll Heal Your Land contrast that to Leviticus 26 if you walk in my statutes and keep my Commandments and perform them I'll give you rain in its season the land shall yield its produce it's almost the exact opposite of the verse that we just read above and the Trees of the field shall yield their fruit your threshing shall last till the time of V of the Vintage and the Vintage shall last at the time of sewing you shall eat your bread to the full and dwell in your land safely so it's it could be safely said Glen.

Number two that the goal here for the father isn't just to get a bunch of obedient children for the sake of obedience but because he knows what comes as a result of obedience and that's his greatest desire for not just his children but for all of human if Nineveh can repent and thus be blessed for however long it was that she was blessed that was his goal not just for as as human parents we we understand that sometimes we want our kids to obey just for just because they're our kids and you best obey right we understand that it's parents that's not so much the father he knows that blessings are a direct result

of obedience and that's what he's wanting for his children in my experience both personally and through observation yah often begins with small M nudges to capture one's.

Attention it may start with difficulties in relationships then escalates to financial struggles career setbacks eventually health challenges so sometimes even severe ones when These Warnings go unheeded 1 hour, 8 minutes greater losses may follow such as the death of a loved one or other life altering tragedies all of which he's doing to communicate to you that he's here Look to Him seek Him reach out to me that's true in our lives we may look at everything that I just mentioned difficulty in relationships Financial struggles career setbacks health challenges this person is sick that person's sick this person's dying that person's dying and not ever believe even for a moment that he's in the middle of that somewhere we look at a country that is ravaged by War and.

Genocide and we don't even stop to think that he's in the middle there somewhere using these things to get people's attention we understand that on a personal scale now apply that on a national scale and imagine what it might look like and I think we don't have to imagine because we've seen it we've seen it in the Bible over and over again and sadly we've seen it in our own with our own eyes in our own lives we've seen it on the news we've heard it throughout history but what are we actually seeing we are seeing a god determined to give his creation Free Will and with this Free Will comes the freedom to do terrible things and we have to say that he is never stepped in would be a gross misstatement if he never did anything ever if he was just a.

A watcher and he was just observing but never intervening this world would have ended in the days of Noah so no we cannot say that he's not intervened we will someday as David said understand the fullness of his intervention we will see For the First Time The myriads of ways that he was actually really was intervening we just didn't see it we were shortsighted we were faithless we were humanistic but he has.

Chapter 9: Faith and perspective

And he will and I'm want to end with this statement I'm being do some talking for those who believe in yah trusting in his nature his goodness his Justice his sovereignty is essential especially in times of trouble true faith is not just believing when life makes sense but holding firm when it doesn't non-believers however see the world only through what they can observe without knowing yah they have no foundation for Faith and the greater purpose Beyond suffering to them life appears ruled by chance and pain seems meaningless but the difference is not in what happens to us it isn't how we understand it the believer sees beyond the moment trusting that even in hardship God is working out a greater plan the non-believer sees only the randomness of Life unaware that there is a sovereign hand at work.

Offering hope beyond what eyes can see remember what Yeshua said these things I have spoken to you that in me you may have peace in the world you will have tribulation almost sounds like a promise but be of good cheer I have overcome the world the implication being if I can you will but not by nothing else but Faith guys that's my thoughts on this topic Glenn number two has his hands already up well hello everyone um I I think it's so interesting that yehovah uh gave us a family and he he lets us know what a father's responsibility is what what a father all all his urges to protect and take care of and and so we have the the family unit and and then he reveals himself to us as our father and you know as as fathers we are not we do not put our children's comfort as the number one thing we're always looking at their.

Highest and best interest and so we're we're you know we let our kids suffer some some some pain and some consequences uh for their good and that's that's what our father does the other thing I just want to point out is is that uh to God death is not permanent you know there is is a resurrection ction to physical life uh talked about in Ezekiel where people will have an opportunity uh to know Jehovah to learn his loss to learn his ways and and you know that that's kind of their chance so just because millions and millions died and the holoc cost um it's it's not the end all part of God's plan amen thank you brother okay looks like Luke had his Hand upad Luke hey Ed shabbat shalom family um morning I I take it back to uh Deuteronomy 28 the blessings and the curses if you look if you pick a prophet any Prophet they are all preaching the.

Same thing come back to me be obedient and you will be blessed be disobedient and you will be cursed I mean as in the days of Noah so it will be again in the coming of the son of man I mean he drowned the whole world except eight people and it they were without Redemption however now that his law has made it to the world through Abraham Isaac and Jacob and Moses on Mount Si there there is that chance of redemption 1 hour, 15 minutes and there are those Among Us who will Who are being obedient and there have been those who have been obedient throughout time I mean Abraham argued over Sodom and Gomorrah if there are not 10 you know from down from 50 down to 10 and he said I will not destroy it if there are 10 and he destroyed it but there are those.

Among Us who have been called to his Torah to be obedient to do it to the best of our ability and to share the gospel of the coming Kingdom and his sovereignty I mean it it it says that not a hair shall fall from your head not a bird shall fall from the sky without God's knowing I mean there's not an adom in this universe that's not under his Direct control so I believe that everything that happens uh to us and for us is all for our benefit whether we see it as good or bad it is ultimately for our good Amen brother thank you so much uh Cordon yeah uh sorry about that uh first and foremost I just want to say that um uh Miriam is that correct uh was your name Miriam I just want to say that your story was very inspiring and I think it just kind of just shows basically our influence of you know of some of the.

Things that maybe we have gone through or some of the stuff we've never gone through but I think one of the things that I just wanted to ask and I think you know as Believers like uh and I just want to just kind of throw this out here um should we um want persecution is my question I know that may sound kind of rough kind of hard but I know that oftentimes I think you know like in America the idea of persecution as far as that goes and such is is not that much more if we share our faith or if we talk about something to someone else that we may say no they may say a cuss word at us they may even kind of push this away but to the level like someone like ASF in Pakistan I mean that's that's real persecution and um I'm I'm just just asking just a question I know we're kind of just talking about you know this topic and I mean should we.

Embrace persecution either want to seek it or not seek it uh in order to really it just reminds me of the scripture you know um in um in the Beatitudes in in Matthew 5 when it talks about whenever someone persecutes you uh says all sorts of nasty things against you because of my name as far as that goes blessed is your name for great is your reward in the kingdom of heaven and um it's kind of like one of those things I wrestle sometimes because you know uh like I want to share my faith but sometimes I feel afraid to share my faith and I feel like okay um you know but when I do share my faith it's not as the persecution that I kind of endure and just want to throw that out there just that sorry okay well thank you Cordon let me just take a moment to briefly respond to that should.

We want persecution no I wouldn't say you should want persecution if you are a person that wants persecution you're probably going to be going to look for it any chance you can which means you're probably going to be a troublemaker or contentious or argumentative or whatever so no I I don't think we should be wanting it but when it but your your lifestyle your faith should draw it without you even trying right that's what Yeshua was 1 hour, 19 minutes trying to say when you follow his word you will be persecuted you're not doing things in order to be persecuted you're doing things just to serve him and thus drawing the Wrath of the world and then when the Wrath of the world comes upon you we Rejoice that we've been persecuted for his name name but that's.

That's so that's my two sents and answers to your question y um David Cassie and we're going to probably tie things up here hey appreciate the lesson this is real good and it's um definitely hits home for us for sure um because it wasn't until really like we saw the just evil in the system that we live in today that it brought us to yahovah you know so as a family where we've experienced this firsthand and I was going to ask your opinion on a concept of maybe a danger to a part of this aspect where people sometimes think you know oh I'm saved I made it this is it I'm a Christian now or whatever I believe in Yeshua and that's all there is and then when they start to see persecution when they start to see tribulation in their lives they start to see these things they're like oh my gosh why me this isn't supposed to happen God is nothing but good you know because they don't understand the true.

Definition of that good um I we've witnessed it recently and quite a few people telling us no no no no God would never do that he's nothing but good we have to send them scripture like you know I create Calamity and the good and I I see this danger in the I guess doctrines of the modern church today that when people see this it kind of pushes them away from the true God you know yahovah what do you I I'm just I guess I wanted that to be more of a question that is kind of possible I don't know sorry uh no no it's all good stuff and 1 hour, 21 minutes yeah I think you're right uh I think um a parable of the seeds would be a great place to start in understanding that because um too many people do want to want to be shocked at why trouble is is.

Falling on them when they've recently became a Believer and they don't understand it but um I think the the parable of the seeds is is there for a reason that's the people who [Music] um people people sign up to follow God for all different kinds of reasons but trial and pain reveals the truth of why they're really in it David man no I just wanted to a quick quick comment here I think that also part of the challenge has to do the with the fact as we were saying earlier that we were we are part of a larger goal a larger plan that in many cases is beyond our comprehension and understanding or ability to even see because we don't see everything and we talked about that a few times but also we have a role in that big unfolding plan and and and you can read in Romans 9 there's 's a discussion about that about the Potter who makes particular.

Items for particular purposes and some of us all of us were put on here on Earth for a particular purpose to you know as as part of that bigger unfolding plan of God I think the challenge sometimes lies in the fact that we don't like the role that God intended for us we disagree with our part in his unfolding plan and that's when we start challenging and saying why I wanted to be the hero I wanted to be rich I wanted to be famous I don't want to endure these things they're looking at it from a very uh individualistic self-focused perspective as opposed to surrendering to their role in God's unfolding plan and so think that there's this constant battle that's happening and and then add on to that all the other worldly influences about you know self self self um that just increases.

That internal battle that hand that that's happening there uh and so you know that's just another part of of a lot well people just uh to some extent you know need to surrender to what our role is in God's unfold plan does that say that well then why even try no that's not the case at all and as I said Romans 9 is a good place to to read that uh we still have free will we still are expected even during these times of uh Challenge and tribulation to still do to the best of our ability to continue to follow God and to continue to obey his commands right uh but then just understand that some of the things that are happening to us are beyond our comprehension and they have an important part and role in what God is trying to do at a larger scale like you said a.

National Universal scale uh and we're just a little itty bitty part of that whole plan so it's perspective well Amen on that note guys we will call it a day we're going a little bit long thank you so much David and thank you everyone for your thoughts and your sharing and and whatnot Mia I will probably edit out part of your sharing because that's that's the kind of personal stuff that we don't want the world knowing so I'll partake that out um but guys thank you so much have a great Shabbat and a great weekend and we'll see you guys next time shabbat shalom guys shabbat shalom shabbat shalom thank you Ed yes thank you love you everyone sh shalom.