

God Answers Man's Suffering: Calvary

Warren Wiersbe

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 27:27.

B. God's final answer to every question is found at Calvary.

1. Sin.

2. Sovereignty.

3. Suffering.

C. Jesus embraces the answers to suffering.

II. There is suffering because creation is in bondage. (Romans 8)

A. At Calvary there are thorns just as there were at the curse.

B. The Lord entered into the dust of death pointing to the creation's deliverance. (Psalm 22:15)

III. There is suffering because of conflict.

A. On the cross the conflict was won--Satan was finally defeated. (Colossians 2:15)

B. Christians are fighting from the standpoint of victory.

IV. There is suffering because of character. (Romans 8)

A. Sometimes we have to go through the furnace to build character.

B. Character is polluted by sin.

C. Jesus broke the power of canceled sin in order to bring character. (Hebrews 4:10)

V. There is suffering because of companionship.

A. God brings us closer to him through it.

B. God brings us closer to others also. (2 Corinthians 1)

VI. There is suffering because of chastening. (Hebrews 12)

A. Chastening is building up.

B. God's love is not wrapped up in the circumstances of life.

VII. There is suffering because of a possible crown depending upon our faith. The only way to the crown is a cross.

Application questions:

1. What should the church look like in light of the fact that the cross brought Satan's defeat?

2. When have you drawn closer to someone because of conflict?

3. How would you comfort someone going through suffering in light of the message? Explain.
