

WHY IS LIFE IN THIS WORLD SO HARD?

“WHY IS LIFE SO HARD? WHY DO WE SUFFER?”

Job 7:1 NCV

“People have a HARD TASK on earth, and THEIR DAYS are like those of a laborer.

I. THE CAUSE: REBELLION AGAINST GOD

Rom. 5:12

“Sin came into the world because of what ONE MAN DID, and WITH SIN came DEATH.”

Isaiah 53:6

“ALL of us have strayed away like sheep. We have LEFT GOD'S PATH to follow OUR OWN PATHS.”

Proverbs 20:9

“NO ONE can say, “I AM INNOCENT; I have NEVER done anything wrong.”

3 KINDS OF REBELLION

SIN = MISSING THE MARK; FALLING SHORT, NOT MEASURING UP

INIQUITY = INTENTION TO HURT, DAMAGE, DO EVIL TO OTHERS

TRANSGRESSION = GOING BEYOND THE SET BOUNDARY

Psalms 32:5

“I acknowledged my SIN to you, and DID NOT cover up my INIQUITY. I confessed my TRANSGRESSIONS and YOU FORGAVE MY GUILT.”

**II. THE DAMAGE: EVERYTHING BECAUSE WE MADE
POOR CHOICES - SIN**

RESULTS OF OUR SIN

1ST RESULT

NATURAL DISASTERS AND DEFORMITIES

Rom. 8:20 (GNB)

“Creation was condemned to lose its purpose...”

Rom. 8:20 (CEV)

“Creation is confused...”

Rom. 8:22

“All of creation groans with pain...”

2ND RESULT

PHYSICAL DECAY AND DEATH

2 Cor. 4:16

“Our PHYSICAL BODY is BECOMING OLDER and WEAKER.”

Ecc1 12:1-5 TLB (SOLOMON)

¹ Don't let the excitement of being young cause you to forget about your Creator. Honor him in your youth before the evil years come-when you'll no longer enjoy living. ² It will be too late then to try to remember Him when the sun and light and moon and stars are dim to your old eyes, and there is no silver lining left among your clouds. ³ For there will come a time when your limbs will tremble with age, your strong legs will become weak, and your teeth will be too few to do their work, and there will be blindness too. ⁴ Then let your lips be tightly closed while eating when your teeth are gone! And you will waken at dawn with the first note of the birds; but you yourself will be deaf and tuneless, with quavering voice. ⁵ You will be afraid of heights and of falling-a white-haired, withered old man, dragging himself along: without sexual desire, standing at death's door, and nearing his everlasting home as the mourners go along the streets.

3RD RESULT

EMOTIONAL DISTRESS AND DISAPPOINTMENT

Eccl. 1:14-15 (NLT)

“**Everything** under the sun is **meaningless**, like **chasing the wind**. What is **WRONG** cannot be **righted**. What is **MISSING** cannot be **recovered**.”

4TH RESULT

RELATIONAL DISTANCE AND DISCORD

Eccl. 4:1 (NCV)

“I **saw** all the **people** who were **MISTREATED** here on earth. I **saw** their **TEARS** and that they had **NO ONE** to **comfort** them.”

Gen. 3:7

“...they suddenly **FELT ASHAMED** of their **NAKEDNESS**. So they strung fig leaves together **TO COVER THEMSELVES UP**.”

Gen. 3:10

“I **WAS AFRAID** because I was naked; **SO I HID**.”

5TH RESULT

FINANCIAL & VOCATIONAL DIFFICULTIES

Eccl. 5:13-14 (TEV)

“Here is a terrible thing that I have seen in this world: people save up their money for a time when they may need it, and then **LOSE IT ALL** in some **bad deal** and **end** up with **NOTHING LEFT** to pass on to their children.”

Eccl. 2:17+20 (NLT)

“I **HATED** life, because the work I did under the sun was **MEANINGLESS** to me.... So I **TURNED IN DESPAIR** from **HARD WORK**. It was **NOT** the **answer** to **MY SEARCH** for **SATISFACTION** in **THIS LIFE**.”

6TH RESULT

SPIRITUAL DISCONTENT AND DARKNESS

Job 6:18

“I am like a caravan, LOST IN THE DESERT SEARCHING FOR WATER.”

Eph. 4:18 (MSG)

“They've REFUSED FOR SO LONG to deal with God that they've LOST TOUCH not only WITH GOD but WITH REALITY ITSELF.”

WHAT'S THE SOLUTION?

1. ACCEPT JESUS AS YOUR SAVIOR

John 16:33

“Jesus said, ‘IN THIS WORLD YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE. But take heart! I HAVE OVERCOME the world.’”

2. FOLLOW HIS LIGHT

John 8:12

“Jesus said, ‘I AM the light of the world. IF YOU FOLLOW ME, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, because YOU WILL HAVE THE LIGHT THAT LEADS TO LIFE.’”