

April 19, 2020



"I'M WITH YOU IN THE VALLEY"

John Greene, *Senior Pastor*

MATTHEW 28:19-20; PSALM 23:4 (NASB)

INSIGHT: This morning's message is thematic. Next Sunday's message will be textual.

TRUTH: We have comfort in troubled times in the scriptures, because it's in scripture alone that God reveals Himself (2 Corinthians 1:3).

The truth about life from scripture:

1. Job 5:7
2. Job 14:1
3. Psalm 22:11
4. Ecclesiastes 2
5. John 16:33

What does God want you and me to know about these days and any days of trouble and loss and pain?

I. GOD IS IN OUR TROUBLE (Isaiah 14:24, 46:10-11; Amos 3:6; Lamentations 3:37, 38, and 39).

INSIGHT: None of us have any place to complain about the trouble of these days.

INSIGHT: In light of our sin, we have no right to complain about calamity. We have the privilege to plead for mercy, but no right to complain.

II. THE PURPOSES OF GOD ARE HIDDEN (Matthew 23:37-38).

INSIGHT: The leveling of Jerusalem by the Roman army, the burning of the Temple, and the slaughter of over a million Jews was the judgment of God on a Christ-rejecting nation.

TRUTH: Today it's very unlikely that we know the purpose of God in the trouble of our world and lives (Isaiah 45:15).

III. GOD TELLS US ONLY WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW.

INSIGHT: God reveals only what He determines we need to know (Ephesians 1:11).

INVITATION: So, what's the good from trouble?

TRUTH: Trouble tests our faith (Deuteronomy 8:2).

God is in our trouble!

- Nothing has happened apart from Him.
- His purpose in each trouble of these days is hidden.
- God is under no obligation to tell us what His purpose is or was.
- Trials strip us down to one thing that God desires above all: humility, a total submission to God (Micah 6:8).