

July 10, 2022 Sermon Summary

God's Grace in Our Groanings

Exodus 2:23

The Reality of Suffering

It should be evident to all that suffering is real. In Exodus 2:23-25, the people of Israel are shrieking for deliverance. Their pain is very real. They are projecting their hurt in all that they do. As long as sin exists in the world, there will be suffering. The people of God are not immune from suffering. However, Christians are the only people who can go through suffering with the confidence that it will be used for the greater good (Psalm 30:11-12). God Alone as Our Source of Rescue Verse 23 begins by referencing the death of Pharaoh. As this wicked man passes away, the Israelites certainly hoped that a new leader would come to lighten their load but it seems that the opposite happened. Think of how many still have this mindset today. How many of us are counting down to the next election in the hopes that the next leader will make things better? Nothing guarantees that the next leader will be better though! The next person could be worse! If one's hope is solely in another human being, you will always be disappointed.

The Usefulness of Sorrow

Samuel Rutherford said, "Losses and crosses are the wheels of Christ's triumphing chariot." One of the great mysteries of the Gospel is that God is able to use suffering for our greatest good. Christianity is built on the reality of suffering and salvation was not accomplished apart from suffering (Hebrews 2:9-10). Jesus is crowned with glory and honor not in spite of suffering and death but because He suffered and died! God's People shine brightest through the furnace of affliction.

Application/Thoughts on Verse 23

The following are 6 thoughts/areas of application based off of Ex 2:23. 1. Bring your sorrows to the Lord (James 4:2). 2. Remember that God is no stranger to suffering. 3. God never looks at your pain as if it was nothing. 4. If God cares about the greatest of our sorrows (sin); He surely cares for our smallest sorrows. 5. Look at your life through the eyes of God and what He is doing. 6. Suffering is a shared commonality in a world that needs to know Christ.