



WRITTEN BY: UNKNOWN

WRITTEN TO: GOD'S PEOPLE

**DATE: DURING TIME OF PATRIARCHS,
POSSIBLY OLDEST BOOK IN BIBLE**

**PURPOSE: WILLINGNESS TO FOLLOW GOD
REGARDLESS OF PAIN AND SUFFERING**

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

1. Suffering is normal.

1 Peter 4:12-14 - Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world. If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you. *NLT*

- John 16:33

2. Sometimes the best advice is not from family and friends. *Job 2:9*

Wife: Curse God and die

Eliphaz: assumed that Job's suffering must be a result of his sin.

Bildad: Job's children must have sinned because they died suddenly.

Zophar: Job deserved even more suffering that he was experiencing and told Job he needed to repent.

Elihu: argued that Job's sufferings were instructive and meant to draw him to a deeper knowledge of God.

3. Trust God all the way to the end. *Job 42:10-12*

James 5:10-11 - My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience. Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord – that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.

- Job 42:17