

Where Was God?

Jesse Berthold / July 13, 2025

Sunday Morning Service

Where Was God?

1 John 1:5 (NKJV) “... God is light and in Him is **no darkness at all.**”

FIRST: God is never absent, He is always present in times of tragedy

Psalms 46:1 (NKJV) “God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.”

Psalms 46:1–3 (TPT)

1 God, you're such a safe and powerful place to find refuge!

You're a proven help in time of trouble—*more than enough* and always available whenever I need you.

2 So we will never fear even if every structure of support were to crumble away. We will not fear even when the earth quakes and shakes, moving mountains and casting them into the sea.

3 For the raging roar of stormy winds and crashing waves cannot erode our faith in you.

Principle: When you can't see His hand, you can always trust His heart!

Psalms 34:18–19 (NLT)

18 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

19 The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.

SECOND: God is in the storm with us working things out for us

Romans 8:28 (NKJV) “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.”

Romans 8:28 (TPT) So we are convinced that every detail of our lives is continually woven together to fit into God’s perfect plan of bringing good into our lives, for we are his lovers who have been called to fulfill his designed purpose.

Principle: God is able to take our most broken pieces of our life and bring beauty out of it...

Job 42:5... “My ears had heard of you, but now my eyes have seen you”

Principle: Sometimes God doesn’t answer our questions, but He gives us Himself instead...

Genesis 50:20... “What others meant for evil, God used for good...”

Principle: While Joseph was in prison, God was with him, and preparing him for the palace...

2 Corinthians 12:9 (NKJV) “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.”

Principle: Because Paul trusted God, His pain became a platform for God’s power. Tragedy didn’t stop the mission... it fueled it!

2 Corinthians 5:19 (NLT) “For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself...”

HOW WE SHOULD RESPOND:

1. Turn to God for help.
2. Let God heal you.
3. Don't try to understand everything that happens, just cling to the one who does.
4. Remember, you live in the in-between.

Revelation 21:3–4 (NLT) “He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain...”