



Why Does God Allow Suffering?

I hope this message finds you in the best of health: spiritually, mentally, emotionally and physically. But you know what? That's very doubtful because there's so much sin, sickness and suffering in the world that it's probably affecting you --- and if not you, certainly someone you know. If you believe that there is a God then you must believe that God sees all of the spiritual, mental, emotional and physical sickness in this world. My first question to you is:

1. Does the Almighty God have the *power* to heal the world?
 - a) Does God have the power to heal everyone's minds?
 - b) Does God have the power to heal everyone's hearts?
 - c) Does God have the power to heal everyone's bodies?

Does the Almighty God have the *power* to heal the world?

What is your answer? My answer is yes; God Almighty does have the *power* to heal the world.

2. Does the Almighty God have the *desire* to heal the world?
 - a) Is God unconcerned about healing people's insanity?
 - b) Is God unconcerned about healing people's sorrow?
 - c) Is God unconcerned about healing people's diseases?

Does the Almighty God have the *desire* to heal the world?

What is your answer? My answer is yes; God Almighty does have the *desire* to heal the world.

3. If the Almighty God does have the *power* and the *desire* to heal the world, then *WHEN* will God heal the world?
 - a) When will God heal everyone's mental perversions?
 - b) When will God heal everyone's hateful spirits?
 - c) When will God heal everyone's rotting flesh?

If the Almighty God does have the *power* and the *desire* to heal the world, then *WHEN* will God heal the world?

What is your answer? My answer is: God Almighty will heal the world *WHEN* Jesus Christ returns to the earth to establish the Kingdom of God!

4. How can you be absolutely sure that Almighty God does have the *power* and the *desire* to heal the world, and that God will do this *when* Christ returns to earth at His 2nd Coming? I tell you on the authority of the Word of God --- the Holy Bible --- that God will heal the world at Messiah's 2nd Coming because at Messiah's 1st Coming He healed people of demon possession, healed people of emotional pain, and healed people of physical impairments like blindness, deafness, and lameness. Yahshua's 1st Coming was a foreshadow of His 2nd Coming! Our Lord and Savior set the stage during His 1st Coming for what He's going to do at His 2nd Coming. In other words, we absolutely know for sure what Adonai will do because we know what Adonai did do.

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So let's begin by observing what Jesus did during His 1st Coming.

Soon after Jesus thwarted Satan's temptations in the wilderness, Jesus came to the synagogue in Nazareth and stood up to read from the book of Isaiah. And this is what He read: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he has sent me to heal the brokenhearted; to preach deliverance to the captives and to set at liberty them that are bruised; and to give sight to the blind; This is the time to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." (Lk 4:18-19). When Jesus finished reading He said to them, "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." (Lk 4:21).

Yeshua addressed 4 issues, i.e. the:

Spirit = Preaching the Gospel to the poor.

Mind = Preaching deliverance to the captives and to set at liberty them that are bruised.

Heart = Healing the brokenhearted.

Body = Giving sight to the blind.

Now let's look at these 4 issues in depth.

Spirit = Preach the Gospel to the poor.

Lk 6:20-26 "Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets. But woe unto you that are rich for ye have received your consolation! Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now for ye shall mourn and weep! Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you for so did their fathers to the false prophets!"

Mark 12:41-44 "As Jesus sat opposite the treasury, He beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."

Luke 12:22-34 "And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment. Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knows that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that fails not, where no thief approaches, neither moth corrupts. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

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Mind = Preach deliverance to the captives and to set at liberty them that are bruised.

Luke 8:26-33 “And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not. And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him. Then Jesus commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he broke the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.) Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked.”

Luke 5:17- “As Jesus was teaching, there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, having come out of every town around Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was present to heal them. And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee. And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone? But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, Which is easier to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee or Rise up and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into your house. And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.”

John 8:31-32 Study the Bible and ye shall know the truth; Live by the Bible and the truth shall make you free.

Heart = Heal the brokenhearted.

Mat 16:13-17 “When Jesus came to the coasts of Caesarea, He asked his disciples, Whom do men say that I Am? They responded, Some say that you are John the Baptist; some say Elijah. Then Jesus asked, But who do you say that I Am? Simon Peter answered, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus said to him, Peter you are *Blessed* [Greek word is “makarios”, meaning: fortunate; well off; happy]: for flesh and blood has not revealed it to you, but my Father which is in heaven.”

Luke 10:1 “The Lord appointed 70 disciples, and sent them in groups of two into every city and place where He Himself would go. (vv 17-24) The 70 returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject to us through your name. Jesus said to them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. So don’t rejoice in this, but rather *rejoice because your names are written in heaven*. In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank you Father for hiding these things from the wise, and revealing them to the simple. Then He turned to his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: For I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which you see, but have not seen them; and to hear those things which you hear, but have not heard them.”

John 14:23-29 “If a man loves Me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and We will make Our abode with him. These things have I spoken to you while I am with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, It shall teach you all things, and bring all things I have said to you to your remembrance. *Peace* I leave with you: not the kind the world offers. Don’t let your heart be troubled or afraid. You have heard how I said to you, I go away, and come again to you. And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.”

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Luke 24:1-20 “Very early in the morning on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, came to the Jesus’ grave, but they found the stone rolled away from the grave. They entered in but didn’t find Jesus’ body. As they were pondering the situation two men stood by in shining garments and asked, Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is risen: remember how he spoke to you when he was in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. They did remember his words, and ran to remind the apostles and all the rest.” (vv 36-53) “Soon, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and said, Peace be in you. Touch my hands and my feet; see for yourself: for a spirit doesn’t have flesh and bones, as ye see me have. And he said unto them, These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then He opened their understanding to the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written: Christ had to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day. It is written that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until you are filled with power from on high. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with *great joy*: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God.

Body = Give sight to the blind.

Luke 18:35-43 “And it came to pass, that as he was near Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging: And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant. And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passes by. And he cried, saying, Jesus, son of David, have mercy on me. And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, Thou son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus commanded that someone bring him the blind man: and when he came Jesus asked him, What do you want from me? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight. Jesus said to him, Receive your sight: your faith hath saved you. And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.”

Mat 9:20-33 “A woman who was diseased with an issue of blood 12 years, came behind Jesus touching the hem of his garment: For she said within herself, If I can just touch his garment I shall be healed. When Jesus turned around he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. So the woman was healed instantly. And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise, He said to them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleeps. And they laughed him to scorn. But when the people were put out, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose. And when Jesus departed, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, Thou son of David, have mercy on us: and Jesus said to them, do you believe that I am able to do this? They said to him, Yes, Lord. Then Jesus touched their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. And their eyes were opened. As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spoke: and the multitudes marveled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.”

John 11:14-45 “Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead. When they arrived Lazarus had lain in the grave four days already. Many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house. Then Martha said to Jesus, Lord, if thou had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know, that even now, whatsoever you ask of God will be given to you. Jesus said to her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha said to him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this? She said, Yes, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world. And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly,

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saying, The Master is come, and calls for you. When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, And said, Where have ye laid him? Jesus went to the grave and said, Take away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I know that You always hear Me: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that You have sent me. And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth. Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him.”

You should believe also. Believe that God has the power and the desire to heal the world. Believe that God will heal the world at Christ's 2nd Coming because God did heal many people in the world at Christ's 1st Coming. Jesus Preached the Gospel to the poor (Spirit); Preached deliverance to the captives and to set at liberty those that were bruised (Mind); Healed the brokenhearted (Heart); Gave sight to the blind (Body).

Next we'll begin to explore the wonderful promises that show the whole world will be made whole after Christ's 2nd Coming.

Isa 11:1 – 12:5 “There shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity the meek of the earth [1st Coming]: [2nd Coming] and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. In that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to Him shall the Gentiles seek: and His rest shall be glorious. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people --- the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. And the LORD shall dry up the Egyptian sea and make men go over dryshod as it was they came out of the land of Egypt {in Moses' day}. In that day they shall say, O LORD, I will praise thee: though you were angry with me, your anger is turned away, and you comfort me. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD YAHWEH is my strength and my song; He also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall you draw water out of the wells of salvation. In that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.”

Micah 4:1-5 “In the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. Many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it. All people will walk every one in the name of his God, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.

1 Cor 15:21-23 “By one man, Adam, came death, by one man, Christ, came the resurrection of the dead. Everyone will be resurrected in his own order: Christ first; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.”

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Rev 20:4-6 “I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. This is the first resurrection. Blessed is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.”

Rev 21:1-4 “I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”

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God wants to teach us that SIN SUCKS! Sin is horrible, terrible, and should be intolerable. Sin Sucks!
How does Sin Suck?

1. Sin sucks LIFE out of the *soul* = Death!
2. Sin sucks HEALTH out of the *mind* = Distress!
3. Sin sucks HEALTH out of the *body* = Disease!
4. Sin sucks JOY out of the *heart* = Despair!

Let's explore each one of these in depth.

Sin sucks LIFE out of the *soul* = Death!

How does this happen? Let's go back to the beginning of human creation to see how sin sucks life out of the soul.

God created mankind by forming him from the dust of the earth and breathing life into his nostrils. At this point man became a *living soul*.

(Gen 1:26-27) And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the heavens, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over all the creeping things on the earth. And God created man in His image; in the image of God He created him. He created them male and female.

(Gen 2:7) And Yahweh God formed man *of the* dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

God gave mankind a direct command NOT to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil, warning him that if he disobeyed / sinned he would die.

(Gen 2:16-17) And Yahweh God commanded the man, saying, You may freely eat of every tree in the garden, but you shall not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. For in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.

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Satan deceives Eve into disobeying God by eating of the forbidden fruit. And Adam ate it also.

(Gen 3:1-6) Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which Yahweh God had made. And he said to the woman, *Is it* so that God has said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said to the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden. But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the middle of the garden, God has said, You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die. And the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die, for God knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as God, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it was pleasing to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make wise, she took of its fruit, and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

What was the result of their sin? The result of sin was --- and is death. Notice God's sentence for their crime.

(Gen 3:19) In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you *are*, and to dust you shall return.

(Gen 5:5) Adam lived until he was 930 years old, then he died.

(Rom 5:12) Therefore, even as through one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed on all men inasmuch as all have sinned.

(Eze 18:4) Behold, all souls *are* Mine. As the soul of the father, also the soul of the son, they *are* Mine. The soul that sins, it shall die.

(Psa 146:4) His breath goes forth; he returns to the earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

Sin sucks life out of the soul.

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Death is the result of sin! **Rom 6:23** The wages of sin *is* death. **Rom 3:23** All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. That's why I am able to say that Sin sucks LIFE out of the *soul* = Death!

Let's define this phrase "Sin sucks life out of the soul = death".

First, what is Sin? Sin is the transgression of the Law (**1 John 3:4**). Which Law? (**Jam 2:8-11**) If you fulfill the royal Law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" [I'll come back to this statement later], you do well. But if you have respect to persons, you commit sin and are convicted by the Law as transgressors. For whoever shall keep the whole Law and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all. For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the Law. Again I ask, which Law? (**Rom 7:7**) What shall we say then? *Is* the Law sin? Let it not be said! But I did not know sin except through the Law. For also I did not know lust except the Law said, You shall not lust. (**vv 7:12, 14**) Indeed the Law *is* holy, just and good. And we know that the Law is spiritual.

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Now let's revisit the statement, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself". Is this the Law, or is "thou shall not commit adultery", and "thou shall not murder" the Law? They're really two parts to the same equation. Think of the Law as a pyramid. At the top level you have the singular word Law. At the next level down you have the two "Great Commandments" in the Law. They are: 1) You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and soul; and 2) You shall love your neighbor as yourself (**Mat 22:36-39**). At the bottom level you have the 10 Commandments. Another way of defining this concept is to say that the Law is the system by which we should live. Within the Law are two "Great Commandments", or overall principles, that describe the motivation for following the system; and that motivation should be to *love* God, and to *love* people. The first "Great Commandment" of loving God is defined by 4 specific examples, i.e. the first four of the Ten Commandments (Have no god before Me; Don't make any graven image of Me; Don't take My Name in vain; Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it Holy); the second "Great Commandment" of loving people is defined by 6 specific examples, i.e. the last six of the Ten Commandments (Honor your mother and father; Don't murder; Don't commit adultery; Don't steal; Don't lie; Don't covet). We can see this laid out in (**Rom 13:8-9**). **Owe no one anything, except to love one another [motivation]; for he who loves another has fulfilled the Law [system]. "Do not commit adultery; do not murder; do not steal; do not bear false witness; do not lust;" and if *there is* any other commandment [specific example], it is summed up in this phrase, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."**

So we've said that SIN is the transgression of the Law. And we've defined which Law. The Law is the 10 Commandments in the letter and spirit of the Law. The letter equals the 10 Commandments; the spirit / motivation equals the 2 Great Commandments.

God gives us another clear definition of sin. Do you know what that definition is?

In the Bible, God gives us two definitions of sin. In our last program we talked about the first definition, which is ... Sin is the transgression of God's Law. In today's program we're going to talk about the second definition of sin. Do you know the second definition of sin? The second definition of sin could be stated: Sin is the transgression of your conscience. Doing anything that violates your conscience is sin. Do you know where to find this second definition of sin?

(Rom 14:21-23) *It is* good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor *anything* by which your brother stumbles, or is offended, or is made weak. Do you have faith? Have *it* to yourself before God. Blessed *is* he who does not condemn himself in what he approves. But, the one doubting, if he eats, *he* has been condemned, because it is not of faith; and all that *is* not of faith is sin.

(Jam 4:17) Therefore to him who knows to do good, and does not do *it*, to him it is sin.

Even if something is okay to do, if you think it's not good to do then it's just as real as a commandment that says it's not good to do. The flip side of this truth is that if you think something is good to do and you neglect doing it, you've really done something bad. So if you go against --- or transgress --- your conscience it's just as bad as transgressing God's Law. After all, God created us with consciences so that He could convict our consciences to do what is right and not do what is wrong. Notice how God speaks about the conscience.

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(Rom 2:13-15) It is not the hearers of the Law who *are* just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified. For when the nations, who do not have the Law, do by nature the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law unto themselves; who show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and the thoughts between one another accusing or even excusing one another.

(Rom 13:1-7) Let every soul be subject to the higher authorities. For there is no authority but of God; the authorities that exist are ordained by God. So that the one resisting the authority resists the ordinance of God; and the ones who resist will receive judgment to themselves. For the rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the bad. And do you desire to be not afraid of the authority? Do the good, and you shall have praise from it. For it is a servant of God to you for good. For if you practice evil, be afraid, for it does not bear the sword in vain; for it is a servant of God, a revenger for wrath on him who does evil.

Therefore *you* must be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience' sake. For because of this you also pay taxes. For they are God's servants, always giving attention to this very thing. Therefore give to all *their* dues; to the *one due* tax, the tax; tribute to whom tribute *is due*, fear to whom fear *is due*, and honor to whom honor *is due*.

(1Ti 4:1-2) The Holy Spirit says clearly that in the last times some people will abandon the faith by following deceitful spirits, the teachings of demons, and the hypocrisy of liars, whose consciences have been seared by a hot iron.

In conclusion, the scriptures define sin in two ways:

- 1) Sin is the transgression of God's Law
- 2) Sin is the transgression of our conscience.

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Next we're going to investigate how Sin sucks LIFE out of the *soul* = Death!

What sins were committed in the Garden of Eden by Satan, Adam, and Eve?

Satan **lied**. Lying is a transgression of the 9th Commandment = thou shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. **(Gen 3:1-4)** Now the serpent was more subtle than any animal of the field which the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Has God really said, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat, but of the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" The serpent said to the woman, "You won't surely die." Satan's lie devalued God in Eve's eyes. Eve pushed God aside because of Satan's lie!

Let's talk about the manifestation of this sin in modern times.

Europeans and European Americans lied when they called Africans sub-human. This led to the slave trade and its vestiges for 400 years from around 1560 – 1960 AD. Over 100 million African were enslaved and dispossessed from their land, and over 30 million were murdered!

European Americans lied in the 1800's when they called Native Americans savages. This led to the near annihilation of the American Indian. We know about the terrorist acts of the Calvary; we know about the shameful "Trail of Tears" wherein tens of thousands of Indians died as they were forcibly marched across the US and put into concentration camps that the "White Men with Forked Tongues" call Reservations. We know about those atrocities, but did you know that Indians were purposely given blankets infected with Small Pox? Countless millions of American Indians died because their European American brothers bore false witness against them.

Europeans lied in the 1930's and 40's when they called Jews vermin. We know that 6 million Jews were slaughtered by Nazi Germany, but did you know that the Nazi's also killed 27 million Russians? On the other hand, Joseph Stalin ruled Russia from 1929-1953 and is reported to have been one of the most powerful and murderous dictators in human history. His regime of terror caused the death and suffering of tens of millions of his subjects." Of course, he told the lie that Communism was going to bring utopia.

Now I'm not just picking on Europeans and their descendants, but all too often the lie is told that Europeans and their descendants are civilized, and all others are barbarians. But history proves that the truth is that more people have died at the hands of barbaric, inhumane Europeans and European Americans than any other group of people.

Unfortunately, prophecy proves that they will continue to be the main perpetrators of brutal, sub-human acts that only a lying savage could do. It could rightly be said of these generations of liars that ...

"You are of your father, the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and doesn't stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks on his own; for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

(Pro 6:16-19) "There are six things which the LORD hates; yes, seven which are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood; a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are swift in running to mischief, a false witness who utters lies, and he who sows discord among brothers."

I hope you can begin to see the devastating power sin has to suck life out of the soul. Lying leads to death! Death of self and death of others.

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

Next we're going to investigate how Sin sucks LIFE out of the *soul* = Death!

What Sin did Eve commit? Eve **lusted**. Lust is a transgression of the 10th Commandment = thou shall not covet. (Gen 3:6) "When the woman saw that the tree was **good for food**, and that it was **a delight to the eyes**, and that the tree was to be **desired to make one wise**, she took of the fruit of it, and ate; and she gave some to her husband with her, and he ate." Compare this to (1Jo 2:15-17). "Don't love the world, neither the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the Father's love isn't in him. For all that is in the world, the **lust of the flesh**, the **lust of the eyes**, and the **pride of life**, isn't the Father's, but is the world's. The world is passing away with its lusts, but he who does God's will remains forever." Did you catch that? The world passes away; lust passes away; and consequently, the people pass away = death. Let's listen to a witness testify to this fact. (Jam 1:14-15) "But each one is tempted, when he is drawn away by his own lust, and enticed. Then the lust, when it has conceived, bears sin; and the sin, when it is full grown, brings forth death."

Let's see the manifestation of this sin of lust in modern times.

Slavery in America. Quote from The San Francisco Chronicle. "State Department officials said the Bush administration vowed to combat what it called a fast-growing "modern-day form of slavery." "A lot of the people trafficked in the U.S. are trafficked through Mexico from Central America", said Elizabeth Pryor, [a] senior State Department official. She said the problem is worse on the West Coast, which is also more accessible to Asian traffickers, than on the East Coast. Enjoying rare funding from Congress, the conference gathered local law enforcement officials, activists and advocacy groups from 113 countries to devise strategies to fight human trafficking, which the United Nations estimates could involve as many as 4 million people worldwide, half of whom may be children. Estimates are that 50K – 75K of those children are brought into the United States each year. "We are seeing a big influx from China right now, from very, very poor, rural villages where traffickers are buying the young women or kidnapping them or telling them that if they come to the U.S. they're going to work as domestics," said Norma Hotaling, founder and director of Standing Against Global Exploitation, a San Francisco group that helps victims. "We're also seeing Cambodians, Vietnamese, Thais, children from Mexico and some from the former Yugoslavia and former Soviet Union." Hotaling, who was herself lured into prostitution as a child, said once the women are in the hands of the traffickers, "their visas and passports are taken away, they're often raped and abused right then or on their way to the countries (of destination), and told that if they don't work in prostitution they will be killed, their families will be killed, and that they have a huge debt now that they have to pay off." Experts and victims say women and girls are often beaten, starved, isolated and raped into submission; escape is difficult because they often do not know where they are, do not speak the language and have no travel documents. The problem has grown as cheap air travel, the Internet and porous borders have combined with poverty and political upheaval in poor nations to produce a lucrative sex industry, estimated at \$7 billion a year. Experts say it is aided by attitudes in rich and poor countries alike that see buying and selling women and children as acceptable."

Slavery in Kosovo. Quote from BBC website. "The presence of peacekeepers in Kosovo is fuelling the sexual exploitation of women and encouraging trafficking, according to Amnesty International. It claims UN and Nato troops in the region are using the trafficked women and girls for sex and some have been involved in trafficking itself. Amnesty says girls as young as 11 from eastern European countries are being sold into the sex slavery. Amnesty's report, entitled "So does that mean I have rights? Protecting the human rights of women and girls trafficked for forced prostitution in Kosovo," is based on interviews with women and girls who have been trafficked from countries such as Moldova, Bulgaria and the Ukraine to service Kosovo's sex industry. They are said to have been moved illegally across borders and sold in "trading houses," where they are sometimes drugged and "broken in" before being sold from one trafficker to another for prices ranging from 50 to 3,500 euros (\$60 - 4,200). The report includes harrowing testimonies of abduction, deprivation of liberty and denial of freedom of movement, torture and ill-treatment, including psychological threats, beatings and rape. Instead of getting a proper job the women and girls find themselves trapped, enslaved, forced into prostitution."

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

Next we're going to investigate how Sin sucks LIFE out of the *soul* = Death!

What sin did Adam commit? Adam committed **idolatry**. Idolatry is a transgression of the 1st Commandment = thou shall not have any gods before me. **(Gen 3:6)** "When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit of it, and ate; and she gave some to her husband with her, and he ate." **(Gen 3:11-12)** God asked, "Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" Adam answered, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." Adam was more concerned with his Eve's satisfaction --- and very likely his own satisfaction --- than in satisfying Yahweh.

Are you committing idolatry? Have you put your children ahead of God? Have you put obedience to your traditions above obedience to God? I want you to think very seriously about what I'm saying. Many of you know that Christmas is a pagan tradition. Yet you say, "but I do it for the kids". What are you doing for the kids? You're telling them that Santa Claus has more value than Jesus Christ. You're telling them that lying about a fake god-like figure in a red and white suit delivering gifts across the world is the highlight of the year, rather than the truth that the gift of Jesus' death on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins is the highlight of the year. How many professing Christians observe Passover? None that you know of? Isn't that strange since the One True God reveals in the Holy Bible that Passover is the day when Yeshua died, and that Passover is to be observed once per year as the highlight of the year!!! What you are really doing for the kids is teaching them to commit idolatry!!! And believe it or not, the word of God warns us that committing idolatry, even while claiming to worship God in Spirit and in Truth, is nothing more than useless worship.

(Mat 15:3-9) "Jesus asked, Why do you transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? For God commanded, saying, "Honor your father and mother"; and, "He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him die by death." But you say, Whoever says to *his* father or mother, Whatever you would gain from me, *It is* a gift to God; and in no way he honors his father or his mother. And you voided the commandment of God by your tradition. Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, "This people draws near to Me with their mouth, and honors Me with *their* lips, but their heart is far from Me. In vain they worship Me, teaching *for* doctrines *the* commandments of men."

Before we go on to more scriptures to prove that the sin of idolatry sucks life out of the soul = death, let's talk about some everyday ways that the sin of idolatry sucks life out of the soul = death.

People (spouse; boyfriend/girlfriend; children)
Possessions (house; car; investments)
Position (make it to the top; stay at the top)
Tradition (Christmas; New Years)

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

Sin sucks LIFE out of the *soul* = Death!

Idolatry is a transgression of the 1st Commandment = thou shall not have any gods before me. Idolatry can come in the form of carving an image of God and bowing down to worship it, or following false teachings about God, like Islam, Judaism, Buddahism, Catholicism and Protestantism. I'm not saying that the people who follow false teachings are evil people, but I am saying that the people who follow false teachings are giving heed to the Evil One --- Satan, the Devil. Satan is a deceiver --- and Satan has deceived the whole world (Rev 12:9).

In the previous program I talked about how Satan has deceived primarily the "Christian" world into believing that Christmas honors Christ. Be not deceived: Christmas is a pagan holiday concocted by Satan to lead people away from worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth. Christians should not be observing pagan holidays, Christians should be observing God's Holy Days. But Satan wants to lead people into idolatry because sin leads to death. God lovingly warns us to avoid death by avoiding idolatrous practices such as Christmas, New Year (in January), and Easter. Notice how idolatry and death are inextricably intertwined.

(1Cor 10:1-12) "And, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea. And all were baptized to Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of the spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased, for they were scattered in the wilderness. And these things were our examples, that we should not be lusters after evil, as they also lusted. Nor should we be idolaters, even as some of them, as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." [The particular idolatry which is referred to here is, the worship of the golden calf that was made by Aaron (Exo 32:1-10). The people sat down to eat and to drink - This caution is given in view of the danger to which they would be exposed if they partook of the [food and drink associated with the] feasts that were celebrated in honor of idols. And rose up to play - The Hebrew word used [for "play"] (צחק tsaachaq) means "to laugh, to sport, to jest, to mock, to insult", and then to engage in dances accompanied with music, in honor of an idol]. "Nor let us commit fornication, as some of them fornicated, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day. Nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted Him and were destroyed by serpents. Nor murmur as some of them also murmured and were destroyed by the destroyer. And all these things happened to them *as* examples; and *it* is written for our warning on whom the ends of the world have come. Take heed, you who think you stand, lest you fall."

(Exo 32:1-10) "The people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, so they said to Aaron, Make us gods who shall go before us. For this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him. Aaron responded, Give me all of your golden earrings. And he took *them* from their hand, and fashioned it with an engraving tool until he made it into a molten calf. Aaron proclaimed, These *are* your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Then Aaron built an altar before it and made another proclamation: Tomorrow *is* a feast to Yahweh. And they rose up early on the next day and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play. And Yahweh said to Moses, Go! Get down, for your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt, are corrupted. They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made them a molten calf, and have worshiped it, and have sacrificed to it, and said, These *are* our gods who brought us out of the land of Egypt. And Yahweh said to Moses, these are stiff-necked people. My wrath may become hot against them, so I will consume them."

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

God hates pagan traditions --- especially when His name is put on them!!!

(Mat 15:3-9) "Jesus asked, Why do you transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? For God commanded, "Honor your father and mother" or you will die. But you dishonor your parents by saying, I can't help you in your time of need because I need to give my money to God. So you have voided the commandment of God by your tradition. Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, "This people draws near to Me with their mouth, and honors Me with *their* lips, but their heart is far from Me. In vain they worship Me, teaching *for* doctrines *the* commandments of men."

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

Sin sucks LIFE out of the *soul* = Death!

Now we're going to discuss the Biblical definition of Death. Death is the opposite of life. Let's first review the Biblical definition of life, then we'll clearly understand the opposite of life = death.

God created mankind by forming him from the dust of the earth and breathing life into his nostrils. At this point man became a *living soul*.

(Gen 2:7) "And Yahweh God formed man *of the* dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

So far we see 2 things that define human life: 1) we are formed of the dust of the ground; and 2) we are filled with breath of life. These 2 things make us a living soul. So obviously, death will reverse these 2 things. You'll notice this in the next few scriptures we're going to read.

(Gen 2:16-17) "Yahweh God commanded the man, saying, You may freely eat of every tree in the garden, except you shall not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. For *in the day* that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Adam & Eve disobeyed God ... they sinned. In the day they ate the fruit what did God hand down as the sentence for their crime?

(Gen 3:19) "In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. **For dust you *are*, and to dust you shall return.**"

1) Death = our bodies lose their form as we disintegrate into dust.

(Gen 5:5) "Adam lived until he was 930 years old, then he died."

In the day (24 hr. period of time) they sinned by eating the forbidden fruit they began to die. In the day (1,000 yr. period of time) they sinned by eating the forbidden fruit they completely died.

(2Pe 3:8) "Beloved, don't let this be hidden *from you*, that one day *is* with *the* Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

2) Death = our bodies lose the breath of life, with no more breath coming in.

(Psa 146:2-4) "While I live I will praise Yahweh; I will sing praises to my God while I have any being. Do not put your trust in princes, *nor* in the son of man in whom *there is* no salvation. **His breath goes forth; he returns to the earth; *in that very day his thoughts perish.***"

3) Death = our bodies lose their thoughts --- and they are not active anywhere else. Life means we have thoughts ("spirit of man").

(1 Cor 2:7-14) "But we speak *the* wisdom of God in a mystery, which God has hidden, predetermining it before the world for our glory; which none of the rulers of this world knew (for if they had known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory). But as it is written, "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard," nor has it entered into the heart of man, "the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed *them* to us by His Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, yea, the deep things of God. **For who among men knows the things of a man except the *spirit of man within him*?**

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

So also no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. But we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit from God, so that we might know the things that are freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches, but which *the* Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of *the* Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.” (Job 32:7-8) “Elihu said to Job, Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom. But *there is a spirit in man*: and the inspiration of the Almighty gives them understanding.”

The “spirit of man” is his thoughts ... his mind. It’s what makes us uniquely human. Lions have a spirit of a lion; an eagle has the spirit of an eagle; a shark has the spirit of a shark; mankind has “the spirit of man”; and God has the Spirit of God! We’ll continue our discussion on “what is death” on the next program.

There are 3 factors that define death, do you know them? 1) return to dust; 2) stop breathing; 3) stop thinking.

(Job 34:14-15) “If God sets His heart on man, *if* He gathers to Himself man’s spirit and man’s breath, all flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again to dust.”

People don’t have a problem with understanding that a dead body returns to dust, or that a dead body stops breathing, but people do have a problem with understanding that a dead body stops thinking. Because Satan has deceived the whole world people erroneously believe that a dead body keeps thinking in another body that’s either in Heaven or Hell. Nothing could be further from the truth!

(Psa 146:2-4) “While I live I will praise Yahweh; I will sing praises to my God while I have any being. Do not put your trust in princes, *nor* in the son of man in whom *there is* no salvation. His breath goes forth; he returns to the earth; **in that very day his thoughts perish.**”

(Ecc 9:1-2, 5) “For all this I took to heart, even to make all this clear, that the righteous and the wise and their works *are* in the hand of God ... All *happens* alike to all; *there is* one event to the righteous and to the wicked ... For the living know that they shall die; **but the dead do not know anything**, nor do they have any more a reward; for their memory is forgotten.”

Death is the opposite of life. Before we became a living soul = life, we did not exist; after we become a dead soul = death, we will not exist.

(Job 10:18-19) “Why then have You brought me from the womb? Oh that I had given up the spirit, and no eye had seen me! I should have been as though I had not been; I would have been carried from the womb to the grave.”

Job wasn’t alive before he was alive; Job isn’t alive after he died. Job is dead. And so is every other person that has died. No human being that has ever lived and died, except Emmanuel --- God with us, who was named Jesus the Christ / Yeshua ha Messiah --- is alive in Heaven. Likewise, no human being that has ever lived and died is alive in Hell.

Where do people get the erroneous idea that death equals life in another place?

(Ecc 3:18-21) “I said in my heart concerning the matter of sons of men, that God might reveal them, and that they might see that they themselves *are* beasts. For that which happens *to* the sons of men also happens to beasts, even one thing *happens* to them. As this *one* dies, so that *one* dies; yea, they all *have* one breath; so that a man has no advantage over a beast; for all *is* vanity. All go to one place; all are of the dust, and all return to dust again. Who knows the spirit of man *that* goes upward, and the spirit of the beast *that* goes downward?”

When the spirit of man goes upward, where does it stop?

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

(Ecc 12:1) "Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, while the evil days do not come, nor the years draw near, when you shall say, I have no pleasure in them." (Ecc 12:7) "[For] then the dust shall return to the earth as it was, and the spirit [of man] shall return to God who gave it."
Why does the spirit of man return to God?

The spirit of man returns to God because God is keeping it until it's time for the resurrection to life!
(Joh 5:28-29) "The hour is coming in which all who are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have practiced evil to the resurrection of condemnation."

Life / Living Soul = body formed of dust; breath of life enters; spirit of man enters

Death / Dead Soul = body loses form; body loses breath; body loses spirit of man

(Eze 18:4) Behold, all souls *are* Mine. As the soul of the father, also the soul of the son, they *are* Mine.

The soul that sins, it shall die.

ANALOGY OF CD BURNER (CD Burner = body; Electricity = breath; CD = spirit of man)

Why does God receive the spirit of man at death? God is holding it until the resurrection.

(Joh 5:28-29) "The hour is coming in which all who are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have practiced evil to the resurrection of condemnation."

When will the resurrection occur?

(1Co 15:20-23) "But now Christ has risen from *the* dead, *and* has become the firstfruit of those who slept. For since death *is* through man, the resurrection of *the* dead also *is* through a Man. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in *his* own order: Christ the first-fruit, and afterward they who are Christ's at His coming."

What type of body shall we have?

(1Co 15:35-36) "But someone will say, How are the dead raised up, and with what body do they come? Don't you know that what you sow is not made alive unless it dies?"

(1Co 15:40-53) "*There are* heavenly bodies and earthly bodies. But the glory of the heavenly *is* truly different from the earthly. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, 'The first man, Adam, became a living soul,' the last Adam was a life-giving Spirit. The natural came first, and afterwards the spiritual. And according as we bore the image of the earthly *man*, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly *Man*. And I say this, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit *the* kingdom of God, nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I speak a mystery to you; we shall not all fall asleep, but we shall all be changed; in a moment, in a glance of an eye, at the last trumpet. For a trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall all be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality."

The good news is that there is a resurrection from the dead; the bad news is that death comes first. And death is our enemy (I Cor 15:26). Why does God allow so much suffering and death? Keep in mind that God healed a small number of people after Christ's 1st Coming as a foretaste of the complete healing of the world after Christ's 2nd Coming. Why hasn't God healed the world now? Why is God allowing suffering and death? God wants to teach us that SIN SUCKS! Sin is horrible, terrible, and should be intolerable. Sin Sucks!

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

Sin sucks HEALTH out of the *mind* = Distress!

How does this happen? First, I'll describe a healthy mind, *then I'll describe a distressed mind.*

Sabbath was special time for intimate communion with God. "On the seventh day God ended His work which He had made. And He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He had rested from all His work which God created to make." (Gen 2:2-3). "Out of the ground Yahweh God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food." (v. 9). "Yahweh God commanded the man, saying, You may freely eat of every tree in the garden, but you shall not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. For in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (v. 16-17). WORSHIP & EDUCATION

(Gen 3:1-6) "Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which Yahweh God had made. And he said to the woman, Is it so that God has said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said to the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden. But of the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die. And the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die, for God knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as God, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasing to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make wise, she took of its fruit, and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate."

Sin sucks HEALTH out of the *mind* = Distress!

Adam put into a Garden called Eden (v. 8), for the purpose of work and beautification of the garden. (v. 15).

WORK *(Gen 3:17-19) "And to Adam He said, Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree, of which I commanded you, saying, You shall not eat of it! The ground is cursed for your sake. In pain shall you eat of it all the days of your life. It shall also bring forth thorns and thistles to you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are, and to dust you shall return."*

Sin sucks HEALTH out of the *mind* = Distress!

Adam named the animals, then names Eve --- but there's a difference. "Out of the ground Yahweh God formed every animal of the field and every fowl of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called *each* living creature, that *was* its name. And Adam gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field. But there was not found a suitable helper for Adam." (Gen 2:19-20). "And Yahweh God made the rib (which He had taken from the man) into a woman. And He brought her to the man. And Adam said, This *is* now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. *She* shall be called Woman because *she* was taken out of man." (v. 22-23). RULERSHIP vs. RELATIONSHIP

(Gen 3:16) "To the woman He said, I will greatly increase your sorrow and your conception. In pain you shall bear sons, and your desire shall be toward your husband, and he shall rule over you."

Sin sucks HEALTH out of the *mind* = Distress!

God institutes marriage. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife and they shall be one flesh." (Gen 2:24). FAMILY

(Gen 3:11-12) "Adam, Have you eaten of the tree which I commanded you that you should not eat? And the man said, The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

Don't Play the Blame Game.

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

(Eph 5:17-33) “Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is excess, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things to God *the* Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting yourselves to one another in the fear of God. Wives, submit yourselves to *your* own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ *is* the head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, that He might present it to Himself *as* the glorious church, without spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that it should be holy and without blemish. So men ought to love their wives as their *own* bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no man ever yet hated his *own* flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, even as the Lord loves the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. “For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two of them shall be one flesh.” This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. But also let everyone of you in particular so love his wife even as himself, and the wife that she defers to her husband.”

Sin sucks HEALTH out of the *mind* = Distress!

Adam & Eve were naked, but not ashamed. “They were both naked, the man and his wife; and they were not ashamed.” (Gen 2:25). GUILTLESS

*(Gen 3:7-11) “And the eyes of both of them were opened. And they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made girdles for themselves. And they heard the voice of Yahweh God walking in the garden in the cool of the day. And Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of Yahweh God in the middle of the trees of the garden. And Yahweh God called to Adam and said to him, Where *are* you? And he said, I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *am* naked, and I hid myself. And He said, Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten of the tree which I commanded you that you should not eat?” (Gen 3:21) “And for Adam and his wife Yahweh God made coats of skins, and clothed them.*