

PAIN

WE KNOW ABOUT PAIN

- **Most view pain negatively.**
- **We usually try to escape it, relieve it, or avoid it entirely.**

The most common reason for going to dr. in U.S.: cure / manage pain

- **Analgesic**

PAIN IS REAL

- **Gn.3:16 . . . 1 Chr.4:9**
- **2 K.1, accidents. Ec.10:8-11.**
- **2 K.8:8-12... cruelty**
- **2 Chr.21:19, disease**
- **Jer.51:8, sin**
- **Hb.12:11, chastening**

**No pain,
No gain**

I. Why Do We Suffer?

WE SUFFER BECAUSE . . .

- **We have free will. Gn.3**
- **Others have free will. Lk.13:1-3**
- **Wrong place at wrong time. Ec.9:11**
- **Nature of universe: system of law & order, actions & consequences.
Ec.11:3-4**

I. Why Do We Suffer?

II. Is All Suffering Evil?

PAINFUL ADMISSIONS

A. Parental discipline guides children into righteous behavior

❖ Is this pain evil?

❖ Bodily pain saves lives

**B. Our purpose in life: become God-like,
Mt.5:48**

OUR PURPOSE: BECOME GOD-LIKE

✓ If 'blessing' turns us from this goal, it is bad.

Mk.4:18-19

Lk.9:57-58

Lk.12:15

✓ If pain brings us closer to God, it is good. Ps.119:67, 71

Joseph

Hezekiah

Paul

I. Why Do We Suffer?

II. Is All Suffering Evil?

III. The Origin Of Pain

MOST PEOPLE MISUNDERSTAND ALMOST EVERYTHING ABOUT PAIN

- 1. Why did God do this?**
- 2. What have I done to make God punish me this way?**
- 3. I loved him too much; God took him.**
- 4. God loved him so much that He wanted him.**

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**Where does Bible ever
teach these concepts?**

THE PAINFUL TRUTH

1. Gn.3: man, not God, introduced pain, death, suffering to world
2. Lk.13; Jn.9 (Ac.10:38)
3. If we assign any blame, put it on –
 - satan (Job; 2 Co.12:7-9)
 - self

Abimelech
Jg.9

Absalom
2 Sm.18

PAINFUL LESSONS

“Pain is not good in itself. What is good in any painful experience is, for the sufferer, his submission to the will of God, and, for the spectators, the compassion aroused and the acts of mercy to which it leads” – C.S. Lewis

THE PAINFUL TRUTH

- 1. Pain will accompany us for the rest of our time on earth**
- 2. We can use it to our spiritual advantage.**
- 3. Present pain should teach us to avoid eternal pain (Mt.25:46).**
- 4. Pain should draw us closer to God**