

Series:  
Sermon #25  
Scripture:  
Date:

**The Gospel of John**  
**“The Boy Born Blind”**  
**John 9:1-7**  
**December 10th, 2006**

Today, once again, we will attempt to answer the question, “Why do we suffer in this world?”

- I. The Jews of that day thought of certain **POSSIBILITIES**:
  - A. Sickness was the result of **PERSONAL** sin.
  - B. Sickness could be the result of **PRE-NATAL** sin.
  - C. They also thought you could sin before you were **CONCEIVED**.
  - D. They believed you could get the sin problem that is involved with your **PARENTS**.
  
- II. The disciples made a serious **MISTAKE**.
  - A. They thought the boy or his parents had **SINNED**.
  - B. That’s what happened to **JOB** in the Old Testament; his friends thought it was Job’s **SIN**.
    1. They all had this **CONCEPT**.
      - a. **ELIPHAZ** (Job 4) “The innocent and the righteous do not suffer.”
      - b. **BILDAD** (Job 8) “God will not cast away a perfect man, neither does He help evil doers.”
      - c. **ZOPHAR** (Job 11) “Know therefore that God exacteth from the less than thou iniquity desireth.”
  - C. But God’s evaluation of **JOB** was different.
    1. God said, “There was no man on earth that could measure up to Job’s **RIGHTEOUSNESS**.”
  
- III. All **SPECIFIC SUFFERING** is not the result of specific sin.
  - A. Some precious saints **SUFFER** !
  
- IV. God desires to **REVEAL** Himself in every situation.

“...neither of his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed.” vs. 3

  - A. Even in the midst of the **WORST** of circumstances, God desires to be made **KNOWN** .
  - B. Four ways God is **GLORIFIED**:
    1. Sometimes through the **RESTORATION** of the sick person.
    2. Sometimes it is through the **RESPONSE** of the sick person.
    3. Sometimes through that suffering, we can **REACH OUT** to the suffering person and bring glory to God.
    4. Sometimes God’s work is manifest in the life of a person that is suffering because they are **REGENERATED** in the process.