

**BOOK OF JOB Chapter 4**  
**"HE MEANT WELL"**

**First- 3 Biblical Truths About Suffering**

**Is Suffering Normal For Christians?**

**1 Peter 4:12-19 KJV**

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

**Suffering Is a Result of A Fallen World**  
**Suffering Was Not Part of God's Original Plan**

**ROMANS 5:12 NIV**

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

**Does Suffering Have a Purpose?**

**Romans 5:3-5 NIV**

3 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

**James 1:2-4**

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

**JOB 4**

<sup>1</sup> Then Eliphaz the Temanite replied:

<sup>2</sup> "If someone ventures a word with you, will you be impatient?

But who can keep from speaking?

<sup>3</sup> Think how you have instructed many,  
how you have strengthened feeble hands.

<sup>4</sup> Your words have supported those who stumbled;  
you have strengthened faltering knees.

*greathopechurch.org*

Chad Woods: Pastor/Teacher

Great Hope Church

119 Fox Rd SE

Conover, NC 28613

828.466.0022

**5 But now trouble comes to you, and you are discouraged;  
it strikes you, and you are dismayed.**

**6 Should not your piety be your confidence  
and your blameless ways your hope?**

<sup>7</sup> "Consider now: Who, being innocent, has ever perished?  
Where were the upright ever destroyed?

**<sup>8</sup> As I have observed, those who plow evil  
and those who sow trouble reap it.**

<sup>9</sup> At the breath of God they perish;  
at the blast of his anger they are no more.

<sup>10</sup> The lions may roar and growl,  
yet the teeth of the great lions are broken.

<sup>11</sup> The lion perishes for lack of prey,  
and the cubs of the lioness are scattered.

<sup>12</sup> "A word was secretly brought to me,  
my ears caught a whisper of it.

<sup>13</sup> Amid disquieting dreams in the night,  
when deep sleep falls on people,

<sup>14</sup> fear and trembling seized me  
and made all my bones shake.

<sup>15</sup> A spirit glided past my face,  
and the hair on my body stood on end.

<sup>16</sup> It stopped,  
but I could not tell what it was.

A form stood before my eyes,  
and I heard a hushed voice:

<sup>17</sup> 'Can a mortal be more righteous than God?  
Can even a strong man be more pure than his Maker?

<sup>18</sup> If God places no trust in his servants,  
if he charges his angels with error,

<sup>19</sup> how much more those who live in houses of clay,  
whose foundations are in the dust,  
who are crushed more readily than a moth!

<sup>20</sup> Between dawn and dusk they are broken to pieces;  
unnoticed, they perish forever.

<sup>21</sup> Are not the cords of their tent pulled up,  
so that they die without wisdom?'

Eliphaz would have been right at home today because what he is teaching here is basically "Prosperity Gospel". The false idea that if you check off enough religious boxes such as attending Church occasionally, paying some money in the offering, reading a couple scriptures or having a Bible on your coffee table, you will never go hungry or be sick or be without money. I fully believe that God has the ability to bless but, when I look at the great men and women of the Bible most of them were poor, sick and outsiders. The Apostle Paul went hungry and there were times he didn't even have a coat or clothes to wear (**1 Corinthians 4:11**). Our ultimate example was Jesus who was homeless (**Matthew 8:20**). The idea that your circumstances are always a result of whether or not God is pleased with you is FALSE teaching (**1 Timothy 6:5-7**)