

Squaw Creek Baptist Church, Marion, IA.
Pastor Kleeberger

SERMON OUTLINE 8/17/08

BIBLE PASSAGE: [John 9:1-41](#); [Isaiah 55:6-11](#)

TITLE: “WHY MUST PEOPLE SUFFER”

INTRO:

1. [John 9:1-3](#)/The situation unfolds...blind man.
2. Scripture says he was _____ blind/try to imagine...
3. Typical human response/Any handicap must be a judgment for _____.
4. Biblical principle: Glorify God in the _____ of handicap, affliction, or sorrow.

PROPOSITION: You have a choice: Sulk in self-pity OR serve in Savior-love. God’s _____ is not to harm us. Here are three reasons why we misunderstand...

I. GOD IS WORKING ON A DIFFERENT THOUGHT LEVEL.

A. Our Partial Knowledge, [Isaiah 55:6-11](#).

1. We are finite/God is infinite.
2. We are _____ /God is sinless. Suffering is universal/everyone has some.

B. God’s Perfect Knowledge.

1. What does it mean to be the Alpha and Omega?
[Psalm 40:5, 6](#); [Psalm 139:13-18](#).
2. God is Omniscient/Can we _____ what that means?

II. GOD IS WORKING ON A DIFFERENT ACTION LEVEL, [John 9:3-7](#); [Isaiah 55:9](#).

- A. Israel And The Brass Serpent, [Numbers 21:1-9](#).
1. Sometimes affliction does come as a judgment, [verses 5, 6](#).
 2. God _____ a solution in the midst of the pollution, [verse 8](#). His works are on a higher level.
 3. Healing demanded faith, [verse 9](#).
 4. Why do parents keep _____ out of reach?
- B. The Early Church And Brutal Saul, [Acts 8:1-3; 9:1, 2](#).
1. Why doesn't God just kill Satan and all the wicked leaders of this world?
 2. Pharisees were vicious! Why didn't God strike them dead?

III. GOD IS WORKING ON A DIFFERENT TIME LEVEL.

- A. God Is Never In A Hurry, [II Peter 3:1-8](#).
1. Forty-One years is like an _____ to God.
 2. We often have lots of speed, but little direction.
- B. God Wants Us To Be Spiritually Healthy.
1. _____ the Word, don't just go through the motions.
 2. Biblical reasons for suffering.
 - a. Trial/strength.
 - b. Chastisement/holiness.
 - c. Further God's purpose/glorify God, [II Peter 1:1-10](#).
 3. _____ against depression and bitterness, [Psalm 46:1-11](#).

CONCLUSION:

1. God loves you/Do you believe?
2. God knows best/God wants the best for you!