

**Who said ??**





Your post

Apr 4, 2018

Easter



Chandra Lynn Smith and 47 others



- 2 Timothy 4:1-4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2 Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. 3 **For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.** 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 5 But you, **keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.**



**Suffering is, at times, a part of  
God's will.**

God's motives and His ways are perfect and they are always love.

And when suffering is permitted by God- we can be assured that it is motivated by His compassion.



**Suffering is always an invitation to becoming more real, more restored, and more reconciled.**



Praise the Lord, my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Praise the Lord, my soul,  
and *forget not all His benefits*—who  
forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases

who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and  
compassion,

who **satisfies your desires with good things** so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord works righteousness  
and justice for all the oppressed.

He made known his ways to Moses,  
his deeds to the people of Israel:

The Lord is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.

He will not always accuse,  
nor will he harbor his anger forever;

he does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the  
earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our  
transgressions from us.

**As a father** has compassion on his children,  
so the Lord has compassion on those who  
fear him;

for he knows how we are formed,  
he remembers that we are dust

-Psalm 103:1-14



If we do not understand that we are in HIS story, rather than viewing Him as being in ours, we will become offended and disillusioned when He does not act according to our plans.



# Proverbs 3:5-6 :

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

# Isaiah 55:8-9:

8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. 9 “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”



- Divorce

- Death

- Pain

- Loss

- Instability

- Rejection

- Betrayal

- Homelessness

- Sickness

- Hunger

- Failure

- Incarceration/Captivity

- Destruction



- Healing
- Physically healthy
- Reconciliation
- Happiness
- Long life
- Liked and accepted by people
- Financial prosperity
- Comfort

- Spouse
- Children
- Fulfilling relationships
- Stability
- Owning a home
- Successful career
- Nice things/abundance



Prophecy is not always  
“positive” ... but God’s will is  
always for the good of those who  
love Him



# The example of Job



# Job 28:20-24

20 Where then does wisdom come from?

Where does understanding dwell?

21 It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing,  
concealed even from the birds in the sky.

22 Destruction[a] and Death say,

“Only a rumor of it has reached our ears.”

23 God understands the way to it  
and he alone knows where it dwells,

24 for he views the ends of the earth  
and sees everything under the heavens.



When God finally speaks to Job and his friends, rather than indulging their obsession with the 'why', He points out their smallness/small-mindedness and legitimizes His authority



# Job 38:1-7

Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

2 “Who is this that obscures my plans  
with words without knowledge?”

3 Brace yourself like a man;  
I will question you,  
and you shall answer me.

4 “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?  
Tell me, if you understand.

5 Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!  
Who stretched a measuring line across it?

6 On what were its footings set,  
or who laid its cornerstone—

7 while the morning stars sang together  
and all the angels[a] shouted for joy?



It is impossible to grapple with the extent of the greatness and power of God without simultaneously having a revelation of how small and insufficient our own understanding is!



# The example of Jeremiah & Pre-Babylonian-captivity Israel



# Jeremiah 11:6-14

6 The Lord said to me, "Proclaim all these words in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem: 'Listen to the terms of this covenant and follow them. 7 From the time I brought your ancestors up from Egypt until today, I warned them again and again, saying, "Obey me." 8 But they did not listen or pay attention; instead, they followed the stubbornness of their evil hearts. So I brought on them all the curses of the covenant I had commanded them to follow but that they did not keep.'"

9 Then the Lord said to me, "There is a conspiracy among the people of Judah and those who live in Jerusalem. 10 They have returned to the sins of their ancestors, who refused to listen to my words. They have followed other gods to serve them. Both Israel and Judah have broken the covenant I made with their ancestors. 11 Therefore this is what the Lord says: 'I will bring on them a

disaster they cannot escape. Although they cry out to me, I will not listen to them. 12 The towns of Judah and the people of Jerusalem will go and cry out to the gods to whom they burn incense, but they will not help them at all when disaster strikes. 13 You, Judah, have as many gods as you have towns; and the altars you have set up to burn incense to that shameful god Baal are as many as the streets of Jerusalem.'

14 "Do not pray for this people or offer any plea or petition for them, because I will not listen when they call to me in the time of their distress.



# Jeremiah 23:16-22

This is what the Lord Almighty says:

“Do not listen to what the prophets are prophesying to you; they fill you with false hopes. They speak visions from their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord.

17 They keep saying to those who despise me ‘The Lord says: You will have peace.’ And to all who follow the stubbornness of their hearts they say, ‘No harm will come to you.’

18 But which of them has stood in the council of the Lord to see or to hear his word? Who has listened and heard his word?

19 See, the storm of the Lord

will burst out in wrath,  
a whirlwind swirling down  
on the heads of the wicked.

20 The anger of the Lord will not turn back until he fully accomplishes the purposes of his heart. In days to come you will understand it clearly.

21 I did not send these prophets, yet they have run with their message; I did not speak to them, yet they have prophesied. 22 But if they had stood in my council, they would have proclaimed my words to my people and would have turned them from their evil ways and from their evil deeds.



# Jeremiah 29:4-14

This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6 Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. 7 Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

8 Yes, this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: “Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. 9 They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them,” declares the Lord.

10 This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. 11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back from captivity.[a] I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.”



# The example of Peter and Jesus



# Matthew 16:21-23

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This

shall never happen to you!”

23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”



# Matthew 16:24-27:

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”

25 For whoever wants to save their life[a] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it

*26 What good will it be for someone to gain*

*the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?*

Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.



# The example of Jesus and Peter



# John 21:15-19

15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

18 Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go. 19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"



# Hebrews 5:8-14

7 During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8 Son though he was, *he learned obedience from what he suffered* 9 and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him 10 and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

## Warning Against Falling Away

11 We have much to say about this, but it

is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand. 12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! 13 Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.



# 1 Peter 5:10

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.



# John 15:18-20

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. **19** If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, **but I have chosen you out of the world.** That is why the world hates you. **20** Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’[\[b\]](#) If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also.