



CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH  
Loving God, Loving People

**The Great I AM**  
**“Solving the Problem of Evil and Suffering”**  
**John 9:1-12**

**Sovereign Purpose (1-3)**

- Here's the problem of pain and evil:

**Premise 1: God is all-good**  
**Premise 2: God is all-powerful**  
**Premise 3: Suffering and evil exist**

**Conclusion: An all-good, all-powerful God could not exist since there is so much suffering and evil in the world. If he did, he would eradicate this evil.**

**Dan. 4:35 all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"**

**Ecc. 7:13 Consider the work of God: who can make straight what he has made crooked?**  
**Gen. 50:20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.**

- **God is Sovereign in the Why (Ro.8:28)**
- **God controls everything, including nature (Isa. 45:5-8).**
- **God controls your life (Psa. 139:16)**

**Sight-Seeing Purpose (4-12)**

**Reasons to Suffer Pain and Evil:**

- **Loving Discipline**

**Pro. 3:11-12; Psa. 119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word.**

- **Godly Comfort**

**2 Cor. 1:3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.**

- **Hope of Glory and Heaven**

**Phil. 3:20-21 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.**

**Appreciate that, think about and dream about your future home. Puritan John Bradford put it this way, I am assured that though I want here, I have riches there; though I hunger here, I shall have fullness there; though I faint here, I shall be refreshed there; and though I be accounted here as a dead man, I shall there live in perpetual glory.”**

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**Food For Thought: Jesus solves the problem of pain, evil and suffering by demonstrating that it all exists under God’s control, achieving His purposes in a fallen world, bringing glory to Himself in salvation and for the good of His own.**

- 1. What idea lies behind the disciples’ question (v.1): Curiosity? Guilt? Compassion?**
- 2. In this story what is the “work of God” (v.3)? The “night” that is coming (4)? The “light” and “day” (4-5)?**
- 3. What physical or emotional misfortune in your life has turned or should turn into an opportunity for God to demonstrate His power?**

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**Bible Text  
John 9:1-12  
(ESV)**

**Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind**

**9 As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” 3 Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” 6 Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud 7 and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.**

8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." 10 So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." 12 They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

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A Captive Thought: "God had one son on earth without sin, but never one without suffering." - Augustine

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sermonaudio.com

*Pastor Bernie's weekly "My Captive Thought" blog is available on-line at <http://mycaptivethought.wordpress.com/>.*

*Christ Community Church Web Page*

Please be sure to visit our web page! <http://www.christcomchurch.org/>

Lots of information and quick links to selected sermons in English and Spanish. Links to our Facebook page, sermon audio page, and Pastor Bernie's Blog. Be sure to check out the Announcements to keep up with our current series and what's next!

*Our Mission: Christ Community Church exists to worship God, fellowship in community and build the body of Christ by making disciples, baptizing them and teaching them until the Lord Jesus Christ returns (Acts 2:42-47, Mt. 28:18-20, Eph. 4:11-16).*

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[www.christcomchurch.org](http://www.christcomchurch.org)

*"Love God, Love People"*



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*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and prayers. – Acts 2:42 (NKJV)*