

GETTING THROUGH WHAT WE'RE GOING THROUGH

2 Corinthians 1:3-11

September 11, 2016 Dr. Scott Koenigsaecker

INTRODUCTION:

A. Life is never without its awful surprises.

> 9/11 attack was such.

B. ***“Our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you’ve shared in our suffering, so also you will share in our comfort...We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life itself...in our hearts we felt the sentence of death.”***

2 Corinthians 1:

* When painful part of life comes your way it reveals where we have placed our hope:

- > What we know
- > What we can do
- > What we can buy
- > Who we know
- > Our good health

* Trauma and tragedy puts us in touch with where we have placed our hope and our trust.

- > Temporal or eternal
- > Natural or supernatural
- > Us, them, it or God?

C. I want to make a case in this series that the only truly “firm hope” is in Jesus Christ.

“But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raised the dead. He has delivered us...and we’ve set our hope on Him that He will continue to deliver us.” **2 Corinthians 1:**

I. FIRST THE BIBLE STATES THAT AT TIMES LIFE DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

A. Life doesn't always make sense because of Original Sin.

“Then the Lord God said,...’What is this that you have done?’”
Genesis 3:13

“Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and earth

through sin, and so death spread to all mankind... Romans 5:12

B. Trauma and tragedy are the shock waves of Original Sin.

“The earth suffers from the sins of its people....the earth has broken down and has utterly collapsed. Everything is lost, abandoned, and confused.”
Isaiah 24:5 & 19

C. What does it feel like?

- * Shock: Not me
- * Struggle: Really not me.
- * Submitting: Accepting, peace begins
- * Sanctification: Holding on to the reality that God will use it for good.

II. WHY WE CAN GET FROM HERE TO HOPE.

A. First because God loves us.

“When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you pass through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned up. It will not consume me.”
Isaiah 43:2

“I will never leave you and I will never abandon you.” Hebrews 13:5

- * God is a promise maker and a promise keeper!

B. Second because we know God has a greater plan.

“But we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, and have been called according to His purpose.”
Romans 8:28

- * The world is broken but...

“We can have joy even in our troubles because we know that these troubles produce endurance. And endurance produces character and character produces hope. And this hope will not disappoint us, because God has poured His love to fill our hearts.” Romans 5:3-5

- * God Word will have the last word.

C. Third put a period where God puts a comma.

“We often suffer, but we’re never crushed. Even when we don’t know what to do, we never give up. In times of trouble, God is with us and when we are knocked down, we get up again...because we know God

raised the Lord back to life. And just as He raised Jesus, He will also raise us back to life, and will bring us into His presence together.”

2 Corinthians 4:8-9, 14

D. Fourth because Jesus has come to deal with this sin problem.

“She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:21

“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world...’I saw the Spirit like a dove, and it remained on Him.” John 1:29 & 32

CONCLUSION: