

JUST HOW TWISTED CAN THINGS GET?: GOD'S SERVANT SUFFERS

Mark 15:16-20

9.28.25

No matter how twisted life gets, it's never out of concert with God's eternal symphony of glory

Three harmonies of redemptive love resound through the sufferings of Jesus:

Who He Suffers: The Harsh Injustice of Abusive Authorities

#1 PERFECT JUSTICE & ABUNDANT MERCY: RAISE YOUR EVERY CRY TO GOD (16)

God responds to every cry for help | Cry out to God no matter the need; he will respond in perfect love

Two cries due to injustice that harmonize perfectly in God's redemptive love:

#1 THE FAITH-CRY OF SUFFERERS: "JUSTICE!"

God grants authority to be used for good; and will ultimately judge all who abuse that power for evil

#2 THE FAITH-CRY OF SINNERS: "MERCY!"

God can & will mercifully cleanse all who turn to him in repentant faith

What He Suffers: The Gross Indignity of Audacious Blasphemy

#2 RIGHTFUL HONOR & UNDESERVED FAVOR: SOBER UP TO TRUTH'S TERROR & WONDER (17-19)

True dignity may go overlooked, but it can never be undermined | Take truth seriously while there's time

Two reactions to indignity that harmonize perfectly in God's redemptive love:

#1 TERROR AT RIGHTFUL HONOR WITHHELD: DISGRACE AGAINST GOD SHOULD SCARE US

God can & will defend his honor against those who defy his rule

#2 WONDER AT UNDESERVED FAVOR GRANTED: GRACE FROM GOD SHOULD AMAZE US

God can & will bless with favor those who believe in the honor of his rule

Why He Suffers: The Cruel Indifference of Sadistic Depravity

#3 ETERNAL KINDNESS & REDEMPTIVE PROVIDENCE: STEP BACK IN AWE OF GOD'S PLAN (20)

Depravity breaks God's heart, but not his plan | Trust God's goodness amidst darkness as plan A, not B

Two truths that transcend human indifference & harmonize perfectly in God's redemptive love:

#1 WHAT OTHERS MEAN FOR EVIL, GOD MEANS FOR GOOD: THROUGH REDEMPTIVE PROVIDENCE, GOD'S PLAN IS UNSTOPPABLE

No matter how much evil others may mean, they cannot stop God from accomplishing good through it all

#2 WHAT GOD MEANS FOR GOOD, HE ALWAYS MEANT FOR GOOD: GOD'S PLAN FOR KINDNESS IS ETERNAL

Jesus died for us—not so that God would love us, but because he already does & always has