

# LOGF NOTES 07.29.18

Christian Endurance

Marty Court, Guest Speaker

We look at life through the eyes of our own understanding unless its enlightened by HOPE...

Ephesians 1:18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you..."

Our understanding needs enlightening from seeing things and responding to them based on:

1. How we were raised
2. Our own experiences
3. How we were educated.

Most of us struggle with fundamental questions perceived through these factors.

Two basic questions seem to transcend above most people's ability to understand life's circumstances:

1. Why do good things happen to bad people?
2. Why do bad things happen to good people?

Hebrews 2:14 Therefore, since [these His] children share in flesh and blood [the physical nature of mankind], He Himself in a similar manner also shared in the same [physical nature, but without sin], so that through [experiencing] death He might make powerless (ineffective, impotent) him who had the power of death—that is, the devil— 15 and [that He] might free all those who through [the haunting] fear of death were held in slavery throughout their lives.

Jesus shared our same:

1. Physical nature (without sin)
2. Physical death (without eternal defeat)

Have you ever been asked by another Christian, "What is your suffering point?"

Jesus did not come to the earth, so we would continue to suffer. There is no "point" to be reached as Christians through suffering.

Jesus came to this earth to take away the power of the devil.

Jesus has set us FREE from the haunting fear of:

1. Continuing life enslaved by our circumstances.
2. That we (not the devil) are the ones powerless and ineffective.

Ephesians 1:18 And [I pray] that the eyes of your heart [the very center and core of your being] may be enlightened [flooded with light by the Holy Spirit], so that you will know and cherish the [a]hope [the divine guarantee, the confident expectation] to which He has called you..."

We are HOPEFUL [the divine guarantee, the confident expectation] that:

1. He is NOT the author of adverse circumstances.
2. He IS our Father and we are called to be His children.

REVEL and CHERISH these 2 truths to stay free from FEAR...

Hebrews 2:17 Therefore, it was essential that He had to be made like His brothers (mankind) in every respect, so that He might [by experience] become a merciful and faithful High Priest in things related to God, to make atonement (propitiation) for the people's sins [thereby wiping away the sin, satisfying divine justice, and providing a way of reconciliation between God and mankind].

The Essentials:

1. Jesus was made like mankind in every respect and experienced circumstances we can now conquer.
2. Jesus' experience made Him our merciful and faithful High Priest in things related to God.

Instead of asking, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" ask instead...

1. Why would Jesus be sent to experience our circumstances for God to still make us suffer?  
Answer – He didn't but took our suffering for us.
2. Why would Jesus pay for all sins to have the punishment of them repeat in our lives?  
Answer – He didn't but paid for all sin with every solution complete.

### **Life Testimonies**

Pastor James Bryon Smith  
Martin Court