

CALL to PRAYER

Hurricane recovery in Florida

Worldview 2 - Romans 8:18-23 - We Live in a Fallen World

Intro – Have you ever had one of those weeks? ...little irritations...big frustrations... sickness... work problems...car problems...problem problems (own making & others) Who is Murphy? law likes me What about big problems.... Hurricanes, destruction of war, tragedies, misery, disease, death? Have you noticed that there is something wrong with our world....something wrong with us? Mini-series on worldview – surveys say most Christian don't have a biblical one. Last week looked at "*Special Creation*". We believe in a created world, but we also believe that things are not as they were created. We also believe in a *Fallen World* (broken & cursed by our Creator). Factor in the Fall when viewing our world. Common conundrum – "*Why do bad things happen to good people?*" 1] Bad things do happen. 2] There are no good people.

BAD THINGS DO HAPPEN

1. God created this world good....very good (7x's) Gen. 1:31 full of beauty & majesty
2. When man sinned he introduced another element into this good world.....Evil/Bad
 - a. "*tree of the knowledge of good and evil*" Gen. 2:17
 - b. God warned that rebellion would bring destruction to our existence
 - c. A principle of death and decay now permeates our life
 - d. Vestiges of "the good" are still around....but the original visage is broken
 - e. A Christian worldview sees this world as a broken world (as it is)
 - i. Work life, home life, animal life, all of life has been cursed
3. Rom. 8:20-22
 - a. Creation is "*subject to futility*" ...is in "*slavery*". Creation "*groans*" & "*suffers*"
 - b. Man's sin brought corruption not just to himself but to his environment
 - i. The ground was cursed Gen. 3:17
 - ii. Why are there weeds and thorns? (purpose to poison ivy?)
 1. Plant life is good but bad has infected *the good*
 - iii. Why are there earthquakes and storms that scar the earth?
 1. The earth is groaning Jer. 12:4
 - iv. Why does the animal kingdom suffer? Gen. 3:14 (genetic switch)
4. Work life has been cursed
 - a. Work is good but a principle of bad is infused into it
 - i. sweat/frustration/unending but never fully accomplishing
5. Home life has been cursed
 - a. Pain in childbearing and rearing. Battle of the sexes (marriage good but cursed)
6. Life is good but life is cursed
 - a. There is a principle of decay that has been embedded into the good gift of life
 - i. We are to fight against the curse (brush teeth) constant fight
 - b. Pain, misery, sickness, and death are terrible evils
 - i. Romans 8:23 anyone "*groan*" this week?

7. Bad things do happen because we brought “the bad” into Gods good world
 - a. All of life testifies to mans bad corruption of Gods good creation
 - b. We must factor in *The Fall* when contemplating life’s calamities

THERE ARE NO GOOD PEOPLE

- A Christian worldview sees the world as fallen and all its people as fallen
 - Every individual human being has been infected with “the bad”
 - Rom. 3:9-18 Mark 10:18
 - The prevailing worldview sees humanity as basically good. This is the exact opposite from a Biblical worldview (65% of evangelicals believe man is born innocent)
 - Profound implications from these competing *versions* of persons
- Christianity teaches that man should fight against his natural sinful proclivities
 - Man is born a sinner - Ps. 51:5 Man is draw toward sin Ps. 58:3
 - All people have sinful tendencies (we have differ ones but all have one)
 - We are all “born that way”
 - Just because I am born with an innate desire to be a selfish liar doesn’t mean that it is “good” for me to embrace that inherit sin
 - Pagan worldview – natural desire = good desire
 - Movie star “*it is natural for a man to want to impregnate as many....*”
 - Gen. 4:6-7
 - We must fight against our bad desires just like we fight our bad breath
 - There is corruption and decay that we must keep at bay
 - Christian worldview is one of self-denial not self-approval
- Because man is fallen, we are to have a healthy skepticism
 - USA – founded on a principle of *separation of powers*. Man/government cannot be trusted because he tends toward corruption. (Need checks and balances)
 - Jer. 9:4-6 Jer. 17:5
 - Every entity, individual & institution tends toward corruption and decay
 - We are not to even trust ourselves
 - Prov. 28:26
 - A Christian worldview is one of self-denial not self-approval
 - This is a crucial point which our most holy faith addresses
- The Bible/the Gospel correspond to reality and speaks to things as they are.
 - The Christian message addresses and diagnoses man’s greatest problems
 - God made it good but things are not as originally created. There is bad
 - God warned us of the bad. He is True and Faithful
 - This world is fallen, and each one of us is fallen as well
 - The groans of life tell us this is true
 - Bad things happen & there are no good people
 - We are to fight against the curse around us and in us
 - We cannot trust us
 - Only Trust Him! Jer. 17:5a, 7

This world is fallen...but the One who created it and cursed it also redeemed it