

**The truth about pain and suffering - WHY does a GOOD God allow it?  
results of our choices and others right to choose and how that affects us.**

<u>WE FEEL: (we learn)</u>	<u>GOD BRINGS: (He teaches)</u>
Pain / hurt (SIN)	healing
Suffering	deliverance
Persecution / affliction	character
Grief	hope
Anguish	passion
Bitterness/Resentment / anger	forgiveness / peace

**God authors (brings about)                      The Devil and sin twist, turn into**

Good, Love    Evil, Hate

The following is a list of previously suicidal people who found purpose in Christ.

1. Brother Andrew – smuggled Bibles into china
2. Richard Wurmbrand tortured for Christ in Russia for his faith for 14 years, wrote 18 books
3. No arms, no legs, no worries – Nic Vujicic born 1982 in Australia, 8 books, translated into over 32 languages "If God can use a man without arms and legs to be His hands and feet, then He will certainly use any willing heart!"
4. David Ring Cerebral Palsy Preacher, father died at 9yrs old, mother died 4 years later. "I have cerebral palsy and I serve the Lord with all that is within me, what's your excuse?"
5. Joni Erickson Tada – quadriplegic paralyzed all her adult life ministers hope worldwide
6. Bethany Hamilton – soul surfer lost her arm to a shark and travels to tell others to hold on to Christ.
7. Corrie Ten Boom – suffered in a Nazi concentration camp for hiding Jews, thanked God for Lice!

There is always a...

**Contrasts** – dark, light – night, day - hot, cold - friend, enemy

Sin, holiness - benefits, consequences - blessings, curse

"He who sows in tears will weep in joy."

He will wipe every tear from their eyes

Job 1:22 – lost livestock, servants, children, health, wife and friends blamed him...

In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

2 Kings 2:11 -And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a <sup>a</sup>**chariot of fire**, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and <sup>b</sup>Elijah went up by a <sup>c</sup>whirlwind into heaven. 12 ¶ And Elisha saw it, and he cried

13:14 -Now Elisha had been suffering from the illness from which he died. Jehoash king of Israel went down to see him and wept over him.

Boy who was born blind? John 9:2

Rom 5:1 - we have peace with God... And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ... we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Rom 8:18 -I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Rom 12:14-21 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Peter 3:14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened."

---

Forgive – find purpose and PEACE with God.

For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. (Matthew 6:14)

Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions. (Mark 11:25)

Luke 23:34 - Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Genesis 50:20 Joseph says, "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good..."

1. Bitterness is like drinking poison and hoping the other person gets sick.
2. Forgiveness does not passively ignore, excuse, or sanction the offense, it merely proclaims that you are no longer willing to be the victim.