

## **WORKING WHILE IT'S DAY**

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John 9:1-12

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### **INTRODUCTION: UNDERSTANDING WORLDVIEW**

Everybody has a worldview.

#### **Worldview**

a comprehensive conception or apprehension of the world especially from a specific standpoint

#### **Metaphysics**

1) What is the origin, source, and nature of the universe? 2) What is the nature of man? 3) What is the nature of God? 4) What is the character of laws?

#### **Epistemology**

1) What is the nature of truth and objectivity? 2) What is the relationship between belief and knowledge? 3) What are the standards and procedures for justifying belief? 4) How should the procedures of science be evaluated?

#### **Ethics**

1) What is the nature of good and evil? 2) What is the standard of ethics? 3) What is the nature of guilt, atonement, and peace? 4) How does one obtain and produce moral character?

#### **Teleology**

What is the purpose of everything and what is the end of it all?

## **I. WRONG IDEAS ABOUT SIN AND SUFFERING**

#### **Karma**

The belief that for every good or bad deed there is a corresponding blessing or punishment.

To be sure, there are Bible verses that taken on their own might lead us to think that there is this dualistic nature to sin and suffering. There are general truths to the consequences of sin such as:

### **Exodus 20:5**

You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

### **Galatians 6:8**

For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

However, this is not a hard and fast rule as we see in the book of Job.

#### 1. Karma Is Not Personal

If there is no lawgiver, there can be no law.

#### 2. Karma Is Inconsistent

Psalm 50:16-21

#### 3. Karma Makes Specific What Should Be Understood Generally

#### 4. Karma Fails to Understand Grace

Psalm 103:10

#### 5. Karma Fails To Understand A Purpose For Evil

## **II. THE PURPOSE OF SIN AND SUFFERING**

### **Romans 11:36**

For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever! Amen.

Ephesians 1

Often we think of glory in terms of God's Character.

Here work.

## A. GOD'S GLORY

### **Psalm 21:5**

His glory is great through Your salvation,  
Splendor and majesty You place upon him.

## B. JESUS' GRACE

### 1. Working In The Day

#### **John 11:9, 10**

Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

Significant to the picture of daytime is Jesus' identity as the Light. Jesus works in the daytime as the Light of the World.

### 2. No One Can Work At Night

## C. THE DISCIPLES AS CONTRIBUTORS TO THE WORK

John 5:17; John 15:26, 27; 17:20-26

We know that the "light" continues.

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

We have a lifetime to work, no more, but certainly, no less.

## **CONCLUSION: PRACTICING THE RIGHT THEOLOGY OF SIN AND SUFFERING**

If we aren't careful, we can fall into the same trap as the disciples.

1. We act like there is an equal and opposite consequence to sin relegating God to an eternal time-keeper and referee.
  2. We don't emphasize the grace of God in the work that he does.
  3. We can lack grace toward others.
- ? She got what she deserved didn't she?
- ? Are we waiting wait for vindication or redemption?
- ? Do we maximize the failures of others and minimize our own sin?
4. We can wrongly seek to deal with evil only on a terrestrial plane.
  - 5 We don't take part in the work that he has given.

Sin and evil exist to display the amazing work of God.

He has called us to be priests, ambassadors

### **2 Corinthians 5:20**

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.