

Text: Romans 8

I. **Why?**

A. **CHOICES** we make?

B. **CORPORATE** or **FAMILY** sin.

Genesis 3:17-18 *To Adam He said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it.'" "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field."*

Romans 8:22 *We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.*

C. **SATANIC** influence creates pain and sorrow.

John 8:44 *You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

D. This is God's way of **SHAPING** and **CONFORMING** us to Him.

Isaiah 55:9 *As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

Romans 8:29 *For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers.*

II. How shall we respond?

- A. **ADMIT** we can't explain everything.

Isaiah 45:9 "Woe to him who quarrels with his Maker, to him who is but a potsherd among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, 'What are you making?' Does your work say, 'He has no hands'?"

- B. **RECOGNIZE** it is part of the maturing process.

James 1:2-4 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Hebrews 11

- C. **REALIZE** it all started in the garden but it will end with eternity.

I Corinthians 2:9 However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him" but God has revealed it to us by His Spirit.

I Corinthians 13:9, 12 For we know in part and we prophesy in part,... Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

- D. **TURN** to Jesus, pray, examine your heart, look up, and grow.