

**2. THERE ARE SOME REASONS GOD IS NOT STOPPING INJUSTICE RIGHT NOW.**

A. God sometimes allows injustice because of His desire to give us **FREEDOM**.

1. People make wrong choices and when they do **SUFFERING**.

a. Our wrong choices oftentimes hurt **INNOCENT PEOPLE** around us as well.

b. Injustice happens because it is the **DOWN SIDE** of the freedom of choice. We can't have it both ways: choice and the absence of evil.

B. God sometimes allows injustice to produce a **GREATER GOOD** in our life.

**Romans 8:28** *“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” (NLT)*

1. We always **LEARN MORE** from pain than we do from pleasure.

C. God allows injustice only for a **SEASON**.

**Ecclesiastes 3:17** *“In due season, God will judge everything man does, both good and bad.”*

**Romans 12:19** *“Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: ‘It is mine to avenge; I **WILL** repay,’ says the Lord.”*

**Hebrews 10:30-31** *“For we know him who said, ‘It is mine to avenge; I **WILL** repay,’ ... It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”*

**3. THERE ARE FOUR THINGS WE MUST DO IF WE ARE GOING TO COME TO TERMS WITH OUR PAIN.**

A. Admit we are going through pain and it is a **NORMAL** part of life. (1 Peter 1:6)

**John 16:33** *“In the world you will have trouble.”*

B. Recognize the pain we are going through is **TEMPORARY**. Refuse to let it be more than it really is. (1 Peter 1:6)

**Romans 8:18** *“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.” (NIV)*

**2 Corinthians 4:17** *“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.” (NIV)*

C. Recognize the pain we are going through has a **POSITIVE PURPOSE**. Choose to let it be the greatest benefit it can be to our life. (1 Peter 1:6-7)

**1 Peter 1:6** *“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials.” (NKJV)*

**James 1:2-4** “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,<sup>3</sup>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.” (NIV)

**Job 23:10** “He has tested me through the refining fire and I have come out as pure gold.”

**2 Corinthians 4:17** “For our present troubles are quite small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last forever!” (NLT)

D. Choose to have an **ATTITUDE** about your pain that will honor God and demonstrate trust. (1 Peter 1:6-9)

1. The word “Joy” means the **CONFIDENT ASSURANCE** in the middle of trouble that says everything is OK because of Christ.

2. It is a decision to accept the **PEACE** and **CONFIDENCE** God offers for us during the trial.



Come to Terms with Your Pain



Part Two

1 Peter 1:6-9

### 1. LIFE IS NOT FAIR.

A. Innocent and powerless people are **ABUSED** by others.

**Ecclesiastes 4:1** “Again I looked and saw all the oppression that was taking place under the sun: I saw the tears of the oppressed--and they have no comforter; power was on the side of their oppressors--and they have no comforter.”

B. The **WRONG PEOPLE** seem to succeed.

**Ecclesiastes 8:14** “There is something else...: righteous men who get what the wicked deserve, and wicked men who get what the righteous deserve.”

**Ecclesiastes 9:11** “In this world fast runners do not always win the races...wise people don’t always earn a living ... intelligent people don’t always get rich ... and capable people don’t always rise to high positions...”