

Sermon Notes for July 19, 2020

WHAT YOU MEANT FOR EVIL GOD MEANT FOR GOOD – GENESIS 49:5-9; 50:20

SERIES: WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS

⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. **Genesis 45:5-9 (ESV)**

1. EVIL-GOD-GOOD: A BIBLICAL PATTERN.

²⁰ "As for you, you meant evil against me, *but* God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive. ²¹ "So therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." So he comforted them and spoke kindly to them. **Genesis 50:20-21 (NASB)**

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; ¹³ but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

1 Peter 4:12-13 (NASB)

2. WHAT SATAN INTENDS FOR EVIL GOD USES FOR GOOD.

¹ LISTEN TO me, O isles *and* coastlands, and hearken, you peoples from afar. The Lord has called me from the womb; from the body of my mother He has named my name. **Isaiah 49:1 (AMP)**

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. ⁸ Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. ¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:6-11 (NIV)

⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." ⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

James 4:6-8 (NIV)

3. SUMMARY: WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS!

"God will use this mess for good. In the meantime, don't be foolish or naïve. But don't despair either. With God's help you'll get through this."- Max Lucado

Remember:

- It Won't Be Painless
- It Won't Be Quick
- God Will Use COVID-19 or any Life Difficulty for Good

¹³ Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. **1 Peter 1:13 (NIV)**

⁷ The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. **1 Peter 4:7 (NIV)**

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. ¹² It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope--the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Titus 2:11-14 (NIV)

Like Joseph: Trust God's promises, cling to God's sovereignty!