

“Life Seems Unfair – Is God Unfair?”

Questions That Need Answers – 3

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Ecclesiastes 1:1-3,14 – “Meaningless! Meaningless!” says the Teacher. “...Everything is meaningless.” What do people gain from all their labors...? ...all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

Mark 4:35-38 – That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.” Leaving the crowd behind, they took him... in the boat... A furious squall came up... over the boat... Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him..., “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”

➤ An “Always Justice-Only” World Could Be Like –

Deuteronomy 28:1-45 – If you fully obey the Lord... All these blessings will come... blessed in the city and... the country... The fruit of your womb... crops... livestock... when you come in... go out... enemies will be defeated... before you... The Lord will send a blessing... on everything you put your hand to...

However, if you do not obey... these curses will come on you... in the city... the country... The fruit of your womb... crops... your herds... flocks... cursed when you come in... go out... confusion... diseases... fever and inflammation... defeated before your enemies... tumors... sores and the itch... unsuccessful in everything you do... oppressed and robbed... pledged to be married to a woman, but another will take her and rape her... sons and daughters will be given to another... sights you see will drive you mad... All these curses will come on you... because you did not obey...

John 9:2-3 – His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” “Neither...”

➤ Christ Endured Injustice to Cancel Our Guilt

2 Corinthians 5:19,21 – God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them... God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Galatians 3:6-13 – Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.”

...Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God... Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.

➤ The Old Is Now Expired, This Is “Good News” For All

Galatians 4:22-31 – Abraham had two sons... by the slave woman and... by the free woman. His son by the slave... born according to the flesh, but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a divine promise.

...taken figuratively: The women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother...

Now you... like Isaac, are children of promise... the son born according to the flesh persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now. Therefore, brothers and sisters, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman.

➤ The New Is Ratified & Sealed in Christ’s Blood For All

Luke 22:20 – He took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.”

Matthew 26:27-28 – Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

➤ The New Is Unconditional because of God’s Love

John 4:10-19 – This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins... if we love one another, God lives in us...

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear...

We love because he first loved us.

Romans 8:28-39 – ...In all things God works for the good of those who love him...

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

...neither death... life... angels... demons... nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

➤ The New Doesn’t Have 10 or 613 – Just 1 Command!

John 13:34-35 – “A new command I give you: Love one another... as I have loved you... By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Next Week @ CLC:

“Is God Silent? Or Does He Seem Hidden?”

Questions That Need Answers

Suggested prayer: “Dear Wise, Loving Lord, Thank You for mercy and grace. Thank You for wanting a relationship with me and making it possible through Jesus. Help me to trust You today and respond to Your amazing love, through Jesus Christ, my Lord & Savior Who lives & reigns with You & the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.”