

Sermon series: Rethinking Suffering

Text: various

Big Idea: Rethinking suffering begins with understanding why it invaded Paradise, and what it does—and doesn't, tell us about God and ourselves.

Delivered: May 31, 2020

Paradise Lost

- *Unbroken Faith*, by Diane Dokko Kim
- Rethinking Suffering
 - Rethink _____
 - Rethink _____
 - Rethink _____

1. Paradise Given. Genesis 1-2

2. Paradise Lost. Genesis 3:1-7, 16-19

- a. Damaged human _____.

- b. Damaged human _____
 - i. Made _____ enemies. Genesis 3:16b
 - ii. Made _____ enemies. Genesis 4:6-8
 - iii. Made _____ enemies. Genesis 4:23

- c. Damaged _____ Romans 8:20a.

- d. Nagging _____
 - i. Is this _____?

 - ii. Is _____?

iii. Was _____?

iv. Is _____?

v. Will this _____?

3. Paradise Reborn. Romans 8:18, 20b-21, 23-25 cf. Revelation 21:3-4, 22:3-5.

Questions & food for thought...

- What's the hardest thing you're currently experiencing?
- What are the main questions you're asking God about your suffering? Who is praying with you about your suffering? Or, are you hiding your pain—not wanting anyone to know?
- Make a list of the blessings God's given you. Alongside of it make a list of your sufferings. Which is longer? Would you give up a couple of your blessings to make your current suffering end? Which ones?
- What sufferings are your friends going through that you aren't? Does that seem fair to you?
- Is there an encouraging/challenging scripture that comes to your mind about God's use of suffering in the believer's life? Rewrite it in your own words. Memorize it?