

**A HARD KNOCK LIFE**  
**ROMANS 5:3-5 / 11-29-20 / AM**

**I. IT'S OKAY TO QUESTION GOD ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON.**

- A. It's natural to want to make sense out of life because that's what we do.
- B. It's also natural to question God about our circumstances right now.
  - 1. The book of Job consists of 42 chapters of questioning God.
  - 2. Even Jesus questioned God from the cross--**"Why have you forsaken me."**
  - 3. One big question is why can a all loving and all-powerful God let us suffer?
    - a. One reason we suffer is because we are part of human race—**Job 5:7.**
    - b. Another reason is that we bring some suffering on ourselves by our actions.
    - c. Still another reason is to teach us some things we can only learn the "hard way".
- C. Although God isn't threatened by our questions, He doesn't owe us any answers because as **2 Corinthians 5:7.**

**II. THE BIGGEST QUESTION WE HAVE FOR GOD IS WHAT PURPOSE, IF ANY, DOES OUR SUFFERING SERVE?**

- A. One purpose is to give us an opportunity to demonstrate our faith—Daniel 3:17-18.
- B. Another purpose is to prepare us to help others—2 Cor. 1:3-4.
- C. The Apostle Paul lists a few more purposes for suffering in Romans 5.
  - 1. Suffering builds endurance and perseverance—Romans 5:3.
  - 2. Suffering builds character—Romans 5:4.
  - 3. Suffering produces hope for the future—Romans 5:4.
- D. After all the suffering Job endured, he felt closer to God—Job 42:5.