

Pain and Suffering

Name

Course

Tutor

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Date

People all over the world go through pain and suffering through many reasons, and many of them think about the reason for such things to happen. In his book Loring F. Chapman starts with a question why people have to suffer, and gives an example from his own life: his brother died and he also went through some pain. He also states that the fact that so many people have to suffer makes us doubt that there is a living God. People keep asking themselves: if God exists, why then innocent people have to die?

The author doubts whether God has enough power to handle evil. He is believed to be able to do that, but he does not, which makes people think he is wicked. He also gives an example of a woman, who only needed rain to prevent his son from dying, but didn't manage to save him. People start thinking that there is no living God, since there are dire things that people all over the world experience, for example plaque.

According to the author, pain is one of the necessary things that may bring people back to God, and gives the example of Israelites, who also had to suffer, but eventually came back to God. Templeton gives another view on this issue, saying that sometimes suffering affects people in a different manner, making them think there is no living God.

It is widely known that a lot of people experience things in life that bring us pain and suffering. However, there is no clear reason to explain why people have to suffer, despite the fact that people try to find a single reason that would explain it. After all, there are a lot of thoughts on this issue, still none of them could clearly explain the reason for pain and suffering.

The causes for suffering depend on what people believe in. For example, religious people believe that pain and suffering are things that are caused by God to test their faith, and as a result their faith will only increase as a result of pain. In fact, this helps religious people in persevering with their troubles despite all the pain they have to go through. There is another group of people who believe that pain and suffering are caused by their sins. In other words, they are punished by God for what they have done and now have to suffer to turn back to God. They also think that suffering is the sign

that God has unlimited power and thus controls them and is the only one to stop this suffering.

There is however another group of people who view pain and suffering a bit differently. According to their beliefs, pain and suffering is not their fault and they are caused because of others. They perceive suffering as a negative thing. Some of them can even commit suicide to stop suffering. On the other hand, some of the people believe that pain and suffering are actually two things that make us stronger. The author also gives his advice concerning how to overcome pain and suffering. He is positive that by embracing pain a person becomes able to overcome it since it makes a person psychologically stronger.

Bibliography

Chapman, L. F. (1967). *Pain and suffering*. New York: M. Bender.