

Often Overlooked Truths

January 17, 2021

Text: Acts 14:19-20; 16:22-26; 1 Peter 2:18-23

Does God Provide Absolute Immunity from Danger and Disaster?

- Did Jesus promise such _____?
- Consider the _____ of the Apostles.
- Expand our _____ of the modern church.

How Did Jesus and the Apostles Respond to Unjust Suffering?

- Jesus is our _____ for responding to unjust suffering.
- Following in Jesus' footsteps requires a _____ response.
- _____ nonviolent steps when facing unjust suffering.
- Misfortune does not indicate _____.

Life Enrichment

What about today's sermon challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- When was the last time you noticed a cobweb, warn area, or paint scuff in your house? Why do you think we find it so easy to overlook these?
- How do you think living in the relative security and prosperity of the United States has shaped our view of the Christian faith? What truths has it caused us to overlook?
- Is the safety and prosperity the American church has known an indicator of Divine favor/pleasure? Is it a reward for trusting God? Why or why not?
- Did Jesus and the Apostles experience absolute immunity from unjust suffering? What do you think that should teach us?
- How might a more complete understanding of the church beyond our American context help us correct our nearsightedness regarding the safety/prosperity we enjoy?
- What is the natural human reaction to unjust suffering? How does Jesus serve as a new paradigm for responding to unjust suffering?
- Why do you think Jesus chose a nonviolent response? Of His three nonviolent responses, which do you think would be most difficult to implement? Why?
- Why do we so often connect misfortune with Divine displeasure? Why is that unhealthy?