

SERMON NOTES

Date: May 12, 2019

Series: "BUT GOD"

Title: But God Has a Plan

Text: Genesis 50:20

Big Idea: We don't have to be afraid of the evil things that happen in this sin-cursed world because God has a plan that overcome evil with good.

REVIEW THE SERMON

In the Bible there are two storylines. The *lower story* is one with human characters and all the complexities of life in a sin-cursed world, but the *upper story* is where God is working in and through the lower story to fulfill all his sovereign and redemptive purposes. Read Genesis 37-50 and mark each time you see a convergence of these two storylines. (Example: In Genesis 39:2 we read that though Joseph had been sold as a slave it became clear that the “LORD was with Joseph.”)

What does an awareness of these two storylines do for those who put their hope in God?

APPLY THE TRUTH

How does knowing God has a sovereign plan comfort you when you experience trials? Be specific.

How does God lovingly use your troubles to deepen your relationship with him? What is God ultimately trying to do in you (Romans 8:28-29)?

In what ways does suffering expose sin in your life? How are you tempted to “play God” in response to suffering or evil done to you (Genesis 50:19)? Will you repent?

Why might it be hard to entrust your suffering to the Lord? What are your fears? What promises does God give to combat your fears in the midst of suffering and strengthen your trust in Christ (e.g. Joshua 1:9; Psalm 27:1; Isaiah 41:10; Ephesians 2:10; 2 Timothy 1:7)?

COMMIT THIS WEEK

Identify one trial from your life that God is calling you to surrender to over to Him. Pray that He would mold you more into the image of Christ through it. Ask for encouragement and accountability from a trusted Christian friend.