The Blessings of an Unfair Life

Zanesville, OH | June 16, 2019 | John Pollard | Sermon Notes

**Foundational Scripture:** Rom. 8:28-32

**Intro**:

* One of the first things a young child will learn when they begin to understand the ins and outs about life is that it is incredibly unfair. If a bird flies into the door and it is injured, that child will look at that situation and lament on the unfairness of it. If grandma and grandpa can’t come over for their birthday party, that’s unfair. While these things may seem trivial in the grand scheme of all things unfair, the point is that from an early age a person is able to recognize that there is a tilt in the fairness scale of this life. And as time goes by we see more and more situations where this is the case and they seem to grow graver with each third-person observance or first-hand personal experience. Now, that’s not to say that life can’t be enjoyed and blessings had. There is a good side to all things unfair and I want to suggest to you this morning that there are many **blessings of an unfair life** that we all have access to and that we need to appreciate all because of the goodness of God. So much of our time is spent wallowing in the fact that life is unfair bur have we ever stopped to consider, why it went wrong and in first place and what’s been done to fix it?
1. **Jesus reconciles us to God’s goodness**
	1. As we have already mentioned previously, one cannot escape the reality that this world and this life is relatively unfair with respect to a lot of things. Why is that way? In the beginning when God created the Heavens and the Earth and all its hosts, the bible tells us that He saw everything He had made was very good (Gen. 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 24, 31).
	2. This idea of God’s goodness is rooted in His perfect creation from the beginning. There was nothing wrong, nothing fraudulent and nothing unfair about who and what He made and how He willed it to function. But in Genesis 3 that all changed when man chose in His freewill, to sin and reject God’s goodness (Gen. 3:1-7, 22-24).
	3. When sin entered the world, it severed us from having access to that perfect, unfraudulent goodness that God established in the beginning. If anything this story demonstrates that what Adam and Eve did was unfair to God. If anybody got the raw deal, it was Him.
	4. Immediately after this chapter (Gen. 3), we can easily observe that life becomes hard, it becomes a burden, it becomes unfair. But it’s not because of anything God did! Again, if anything, God is the one given the raw deal time and time again in the biblical narrative. It’s our sin and the cosmic consequences thereof that affect our relationships, our physical health, our economic success etc. Sin affects everyone and everything and that’s the point God wants us to understand!
	5. Sin is to the soul what leprosy is to the body. It is disgusting, vile and painful and it’s just not worth it! But the fact is that man got themselves into that mess and that’s why the world is the way that it is. It’s unfair because we took the blessings of the Creator and exchanged it for the lie and the image of corruptible man (Rom. 1:22-25).
	6. Now, all that being said we are here today, many of us having been blessed greatly, successful in a lot of areas of our lives, family and friends we are thankful for, medicine and good health etc. and to sum it all up in one word it is all: **Good!** Some semblance of Gen. 1 and God’s perfect creation has been manifested in our lives but have we ever stopped to ask why and how and who?
	7. That’s exactly the point Paul is making in Rom. 8:28-32. Paul is writing to a people who love God (v. 28) and who have been called. Justified and glorified but not because of anything they have done. God knew the moment sin entered the world what it would do to us and our relationship with Him.
	8. So, God envisioned and manufactured a plan that involved His Son being at the center of it all. Jesus would die for us and by Him dying for us we could be renewed once again to that goodness lost in the Garden of Eden. But here’s the thing about that plan: **Jesus was innocent!**
	9. If there was ever something that was the epitome of life being unfair it’s the fact that the only perfect human being to ever live should be humiliated and killed the way He was because of what sinful and evil men did (1 Pet. 2:21-25). God has been treated unfairly by mankind since the beginning but yet He purposed in His heart to offer His Son so we could be reconciled to His goodness!
	10. This God who would go to such great lengths to redeem us, to offer us everything, to take us back to the beginning when everything was pure and holy, if He is for us and fights for us, then whom shall we fear (Psa. 27:1; Rom. 8:31)?
	11. Is this life unfair? Of course it is. But instead of wallowing in the pits of misery we ought to consider and appreciate that there are infinite blessings to be had in this unfair life (Mk. 10:28-30). God gives us the remedy and that is life in His Son. So, in truth, as Christians, we are the result of an unfair process (Jesus’ death). And, by all means, we should give gratitude and glory to God every day for that.
	12. It’s only worth living in this world and putting up with this world if we turn to Jesus. Otherwise, what’s the point. Life will always hurt and life will always be painful and there will be no real good outcome or good thing to look forward to. But if we look to the Cross of Christ, then it’s worth everything!
	13. All things will work together for good to those who love God? Do you believe that? Does your life and the way you are living it show that you are convicted of that statement? God won’t and doesn’t hesitate to freely give us all things (Rom. 8:32; 2 Pet. 1:3-4) just as He did to Adam and Eve in the beginning. And that is evidenced by His Son and the life we live in Him (Eph. 1:3-4).

**Conclusion:** Does any of this give us indication that we won’t hurt every now and then? Will there be deaths, trials and situations we just don’t seem to understand? As long as sin is in the world these things will happen. As long as the devil is still roaming these things will take place. Does this give us cause for pause in terms of the way we should serve God and serve our brethren? Heaven is answer! Jesus is the answer! The pain and hurt and loss and whatever it may be will only be worth it if we get to Heaven someday. That is the only reason. We supplied the problem and the consequences but God gives us the fix! He gave us the remedy! There are plenty of blessings to be enjoyed in this unfair life now and even greater blessings to come in the future in the Paradise of God restored.