

Psalm 119:67 & 71 "Suffering is a Blessing in Disguise"

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Date: 08 February 2026

Preacher: Pastor Hyeon Soo Lim

[0 : 00] Hi, my name is George Sinclair. I'm the lead pastor of Church of the Messiah.

! It is wonderful that you would like to check out some of the sermons done by Church of the Messiah, either by myself or some of the others. Listen, just a couple of things. First of all, would you pray for us that we will open God's Word well to His glory and for the good of people like yourself?

The second thing is, if you aren't connected to a church and if you are a Christian, we really, I would really like to encourage you to find a good local church where they believe the Bible, they preach the gospel, and if you have some trouble finding that, send us an email. We will do what we can to help connect you with a good local church wherever you are. And if you're a non-Christian, checking us out, we're really, really, really glad you're doing that. Don't hesitate to send us questions. It helps me actually to know, as I'm preaching, how to deal with the types of things that you're really struggling with. So God bless.

It's our great privilege this morning to have as our guest speaker, Pastor Lim. I apologize, I'm not going to try to pronounce your first name. Pastor Lim is a Korean-Canadian pastor. He was providing millions of dollars of aid to the North Koreans when he disappeared in February 2015.

The North Korean government had arrested him, claiming he was speaking out against their regime. On December 2015, Pastor Lim was sentenced to life in prison, doing hard labor for long hours a day. By the grace of God, Lim was released, Pastor Lim was released from detention on August 19th, 2017, after the intervention of the Trudeau government. And it is our great privilege that we can have you here to open the word for us and to share with us how persecution can sometimes be a road and an avenue to blessing.

[2 : 18] So Pastor Lim, I welcome you. Thank you. I have seen the reason for the Canada's land in the world. Over the past years, I have witnessed what I believe to be the wrath of God upon the land of Canada.

The reason for this wrath can be summed up in one word, sin. Why have we seen the world of Canada's land before we have seen the world of the world?

Why have we seen unprecedented and devastating wildfires across this land, the economic crisis, pandemics, and deep social divisions?

That's because God's people have not turned away from their wicked ways. First and foremost, the people of God must repent, turn away from their sins, and seek the face of God.

When we do this, our prayers will surely rise up to God, and we'll surely receive His answer.

[3 : 37] The only answer is prayer. When the earnest prayer is restored, we will overcome temptation, endure persecution, and even times of tribulation will be brought to an end.

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■■■■■? ■■■■. Because of that faith, ■■■■ was blessed with a lot of material blessings as well.

However, these days, ■■■■ has become a big lukewarm. ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■■■. I want to talk a little bit about North Korea. ■■■■ ■■ 26 ■■ ■■ ■■ 150 ■■ ■■■■■■■■.

In the past 26 years, I visited North Korea 150 times. ■■■■ ■■ ■ ■■■■■ ■■■■■ ■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■■■. I saw so many people starving to death with my own eyes.

[9 : 28] ■ ■■■■■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■ ■■■■■■. They're my people, the same Korean people. And that's why my heart went to repeatedly go back to North Korea. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■ 10 ■ ■■ ■■ ■■■■■ ■■■■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■ ■■■■■■■■.

So my church in Toronto had this project to save 100,000 lives of North Koreans. ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■ 1 ■ 350 ■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■■■■■.

First of all, we adopted 10,350 orphans. ■ ■■■■■■ ■■ ■■ ■■ ■■■■ we provide them with food, clothing, medicine, sugar, sugar, everything we could.

A■■■ ■■■■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■ North Korea ■ ■■■■■■. ■■■■ ■ ■■■■■■. ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■ ■■ ■■■■■■■■.

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[10 : 41] 26 ■■ ■■, ■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■■■. ■■■■ ■■ ■■ ■■■■■■. ■■■■■■■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■■■■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■ 2,000 ■■ ■■■■■■■■.

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■■■■ ■■ ■■ 2013 ■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■.

[11 : 58] Then 2013 happened when I was giving a sermon just like here in an American church. ■■■■■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■ ■■■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■■■ ■■■■■■■■.

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■■■■ ■■■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ 4 ■ 3 ■■ ■■ ■■■■■■. 43,000 ■■■■ ■■■■■ ■■■■ 6 ■ ■■ ■ ■■■■ ■■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ 4 ■ 3 ■■ ■■ ■■■■■■.

60,000 churches in South Korea 43,000 ■■■■ ■■■■ in North Korea ■■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■■■■■.

And I also proclaim at that sermon that the dictatorship of Kim Jong-un has to stop ■■■■ ■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■ ■■■■ ■■■■■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■■■.

[13 : 17] So unfortunately that sermon was uploaded to the internet the hackers North Korean hackers got hold of it they alerted their authorities and he was surely lured into North Korea and got arrested.

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Because of the constant verbal abuse and stress I experienced 3 months of stomach ache and diarrhea.

[14:39] Because of the constant verbal abuse and stress I experienced 3 months of stomach ache and diarrhea.

And then apparently my intestines weren't working and so I had a whole day surgery when I went in and came out in the evening.

The prison is heated by coal and I almost had a gas poisoning.

Although I endured unspeakable sufferings of all kinds in the end I came to see that my suffering became a disguised blessing.

Before I was afflicted I went astray but now I obey your word.

[15:56] I was afflicted by the Lord and I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

[17:24] I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

[19:00] I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

I was afflicted by the Lord.

[20:23] I was afflicted by the Lord.

[35 : 07] After 949 days. 2017 year 8■. 2017 year 8■. He just had landed in Trenton, the Airfield Army Base, and then he went to Toronto.

That was in 2017. He looks older, right? ■■ ■■■■ ■■■■ ■■■■, ■ ■■■■■■■■ ■■■■ ■■ ■■■■.

There are a lot of people who prayed for me, including people in Ottawa at the time. For my release. ■■■ ■■■ ■■ ■■ ■■ ■■■■ ■■■ ■■■■ 2,000■■■ ■■■■■. I received 2,000 letters from all kinds of people across the world when I was in jail.

Canada. Canada. Actually, there is the most letters came from PEI. I don't know anybody in PEI.

I think PEI has a really good faith. News [REDACTED]. Because of the news, they wrote to a North Korean jail.

[illegible]

And they all come to bow in front of the statue every day. Okay, move. Next. Keep going. Yeah, all in red. This is ■■.

The church in Pyongyang had a bit of revival before the communism came in. And they destroyed it and built the biggest statues there.

■■■■■■■■■■ 4■ 3■ ■■■■■■ ■■■. That's what I mean by statues. 43,000 of them across North Korea. It's so expensive to build those and yet people starve.

And remember, it's because I said that these statues needed to be destroyed that I ended up getting the death sentence.

[illegible]

They're just trying to foraging for food everywhere. There are so many people dying of hunger and starvation.

There are so many people dying of hunger and starvation. There are so many people dying of hunger and starvation. That's the train I took from Pyongyang. And there's no windows, there's no doors. There are so many people dying of hunger and suffering.

You just sit on the ground. That's what I take. In one word, it's an extreme poverty, extreme pain and suffering that they're undergoing.

In one word, it's an extreme poverty, extreme pain and suffering that they're undergoing. There are so many people dying of hunger and starvation. The sands are like 40,000 people, but really really torn down and bad shape.

[39 : 33] The sands are like 40,000 people, but really really torn down and bad shape. And all the mountains are treeless. The sands are like five different streets. The sands are like five different streets. They are planting trees there.

They have one day in a year that is dedicated to planting trees. But trees don't grow. Because people eat it or use it as a heating fuel.

They have quite a bit of coal already, but they don't have the resources to extract them. I think it's a lot of electricity.

I think it's a lot of electricity. I saw some dogs on the street.

I saw some dogs on the street.

[40 : 40] And cows. That was so big. These are the children. Here is a lot of people. There are 3,000 people.

There are 3,000 people. There are 3,000 people. Here is a place in the house. There are 3,000 people. There are 3,000 people.

There are 3,000 people. There are 3,000 people. There are 3,000 people. There are 3,000 people. We've fed them for many, many years. We've fed them for many, many years. So, the rocking children because they are deprived of love.

If you hold them for a while, they calm down. But they're all given away.

Down. Down. The kids are malarished.

[41 : 57] He's 16 years old. He's 17.

They're about on average 20 centimeters shorter than their South Korean peers. Same gene.

They don't have proper clothes either. They don't have proper clothes either. There are a lot of diseases. There are a lot of diseases.

There are tens of thousands of kids like that. There are thousands of kids like that. We've helped seven places like that.

We've helped seven places like that. Our church. We've helped seven places like that. Our church. There are thousands of kids. There are thousands of kids. And each has about 3,000 kids. And these are kids upstairs.

[43 : 11] We've been walking upstairs. We've been walking upstairs. We've been walking upstairs. And they were hiding these kids from us as we were visiting the facility. They're hiding the facility.

They're hiding the facility. They're hiding the facility. They're hiding the facility. They're hiding the facility. They're suffering kids, but they're actually worse ones on the streets. ■■■ ■■■ ■■■■ ■■■ ■■■■. These are kids that are not able to even walk.

He's getting a vaccine, just a sugar injection. They have brain damage because they haven't had enough sugar.

Can you imagine a vaccine injection, IV, sugar? We're all having diabetes because they have too much sugar here.

[44 : 21] It's not that. It's a very, very, very much sugar. There's more pictures, but I think I'll end it here. My church used to go to North Korea every other month.

We built a technical college in Pyongyang where 15 members of my congregation went there as professors and are still serving there.

[45 : 58] And then you get to know them, and then you get to know them. And then you get to know them. When you meet the North Koreans, the real, like the North Korean people, people, they're really, really pure hearted.

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