

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.

Why are there so many wildfires in Australia? Why are there so many wildfires in California?

Why are there so many wildfires in California? Amazon, also in Amazon. Canada's landmass, the wildfires in Canada consumed the landmass equivalent to Korea.

This is not unrelated to our sins. This is the symbol of fire's judgment. God's judgment can be divided into three.

First, physical. First, physical. Hail, tsunami, famine, famine, drought, and flooding.

[4 : 55] When God closes the heaven and stops the rain. Second is economics. There is recession and depression. There is recession and depression.

Farms get destroyed, animals get sick. Many people experience economic hardship. Many people experience economic hardship.

Third, global pandemic. We've experienced a pandemic, but there are many other viruses around.

All these difficulties are not by chance. God has [REDACTED]

I want all of Canadians to turn to God.

I want Canada to be blessed and be the vessel of blessings. I want Canada to be the face of God that shines up in the world.

[6 : 37] From the beginning of the year, we have a lot of Christians in Korea. We have no Christians in Korea.

We have no Christians in Korea. But because of the devoted missionaries that came to Korea, we have a lot of Christians in Korea.

We have a lot of Christians in Korea. And that's why there are 60,000 churches in Korea today.

Not 6,000.

[8:15] [REDACTED] 100 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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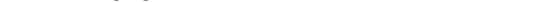
■■■■■? ■■■. Because of that faith, ■■■■■ was blessed with a lot of material blessings as well.

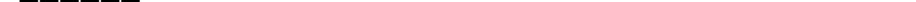
First of all, we adopted 10,350 orphans. ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ we provide them with food, clothing, medicine, sugar, sugar, everything we could.

A [REDACTED] North Korea [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

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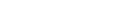
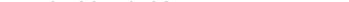
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 2013

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

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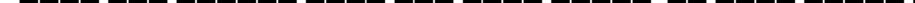
60,000 churches in South Korea 43,000  in North Korea  .

[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.

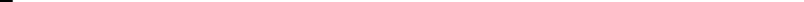
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3. *Conclusions*

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

[15:56] 
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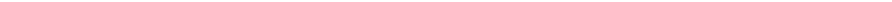
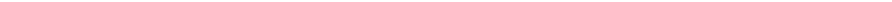
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[20.23]  

North Korea [REDACTED] I am not going to be able to think about you.

The Bible says continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison and those who are mistreated as you yourselves were suffering. I am not going to be able to talk about the underground church in North Korea.

[28 : 08] But one day I was in prison before I was in prison and the people of the underground church in North Korea found me.

About eight of them came. There was a program called reunification of families.

So people who were separated during the war were kind of reuniting and that's how they got to come to see me. [REDACTED]

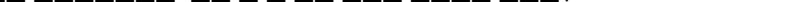
So I was praying with them holding hands and I could feel the tears dropping on my hands as we were praying together.

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1990

[30:33] 1990 1990

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[33:07] █? █? I'm looking for microphone. █. █. It's okay. You can just go ahead and play it.

It's okay. It's okay. It's okay. It's okay.

It's okay. And the cause of sentence was to destroy the statues of Kim Il-sung.

And then forced labor for life was the sentence that he just declared. That's when he's landing in Korea after three years in jail.

In Canada. He's landing in Canada. This is his return to his own church in Toronto.

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.

But they don't have enough sugar there. They don't have enough sugar there. They don't have enough sugar there. That's all they're having, IV, enough sugar.

[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.

One hundred thousand people saved us. Because I got arrested, the church stopped the ministry.

We sent a lot of missionaries there. There's one member, congregation member that went there as a principal of seniors home there and served there for 20 years.

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

And then you get to know them, get close to them, and then you can spread the gospel.

[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.