Fellowship Baptist Church, October 9, 2016 P.M.

INTRODUCTION:
   A. Jesus’ concern and compassion demonstrated—v. 1
   B. A misconception confronted—v. 2. “Sickness is a result of personal sin.”
   C. A misunderstanding cleared up—v. 3-5 (God makes men sick—no sickness is the natural outcome of circumstances beyond our control. (Sickness is the consequences of sin in human nature.)
   D. Jesus demonstrates the power of God in curing the man born blind—v. 4-5.

I. The most common reason for sickness is the weakness of the human body.
   A. The effect of sin over generations—Gen. 3.
   B. The body is vulnerable to disease.
   C. Sickness reminds us of the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death.

II. Sometimes sickness is the result of chastisement—Prov. 107:17; Heb. 12;
   A. The purpose: to cause us to turn from sin—Prov. 1:23
   B. The purpose: cause spiritual growth—Heb. 12:10, 11

III. Sometimes sickness is brought about by stupidity and ignorance—Prov. 3:35; 14:33
   A. Its purpose is to teach.
   B. Its purpose is to warn.

IV. Sometimes sickness is the result of persecution--Matt. 13:21; II Tim. 3:12
   A. A result of living for God— I Thess. 3:3-4; Phil. 1:29-30; 1 Thess 3:3-4
   B. Do not retaliate God will set things right— I Peter 2:19-23; Rom. 12:
   C. Sickness provides opportunities for witness—I Peter 3:13-18

V. Sometimes it is to demonstrate the glory and power of God.
   A. Lazarus—John 11:4
   B. The man born blind—John 9: 1-5
   C. Job—1:8-9

CONCLUSION:
   A. We may never know the reasons why we suffer.
   B. We must learn to trust a loving and all wise God.
   C. God has a purpose and plan; we may not understand it but we can claim his promises.
      1. All things work together for good—Rom. 8:28
      2. God will never leave us to fight alone.
      3. We can do all things through Christ. –Phil. 4:13