



## **FIRST FRIDAY BRIEFING – June 3, 2022**

*‘I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD who does all these things.’ (Isaiah 45:7)*

*“Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that good and bad come?” (Lamentations 3:38)*

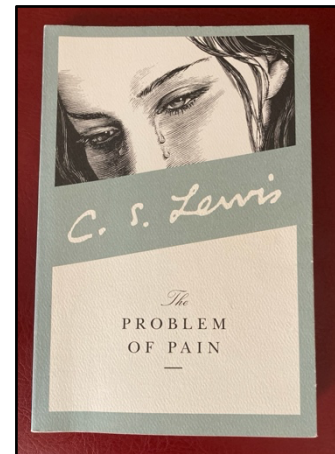
*“Consider the work of God: who can make straight what he has made crooked?” (Ecclesiastes 7:13)*

*“For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.” (Romans 11:36)*

*“The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.” (Psalm 145:17)*

The verses above highlight the biblical view of God’s relationship to events in the world. He is sovereign over them and He is righteous in all He does. Terrible things are happening and it can be a challenge for Christians as we grieve and agonize over what we see and experience while also desiring to maintain a firm conviction regarding the true character and nature of God.

C. S Lewis in the preface of his book The Problem of Pain writes “the only purpose of the book is to solve the intellectual problem raised by suffering.” In Chapter 1, he writes how he would have answered the question “Why do you not believe in God?” if it had been asked him when he was an atheist. Part of his answer includes the nature of the universe we live in. He writes “All stories will come to nothing: all life will turn out in the end to have been a transitory and senseless contortion upon the idiotic face of infinite matter. If you ask me to believe that this is the work of a benevolent and omnipotent spirit, I reply that all the evidence points in the opposite direction. Either there is no spirit behind the universe, or else a spirit indifferent to good and evil, or else an evil spirit.”



I share this with you because Mr. S has agreed to read The Problem of Pain with me as a resource to our discussion about how to keep faith in a world filled with the violence, evil, and cruelty rampant in the world around us. I am very excited about this opportunity! We have scheduled the next meeting and he has cleared his busy schedule to spend an hour and a half with me. What a privilege!

Now that the Legislative Session is over I hope to have meetings with many of the senators and representative. I had a wonderful lunch meeting yesterday with a legislator

and the Lord truly blessed. We talked a bit about politics but spent the bulk of our time getting to know each other and discussing theology and the Bible. (This legislator is a member of one of the very liberal mainline denominations.) Afterwards he said he really enjoyed the time and wants to meet again. I told him I would contact his office to schedule a meeting with him a bit later in the summer.

Thank you for your prayers and support - the Lord is at work and what a joy it is to be involved in this gospel outreach ministry!

FYI, I have made plans to attend the PCA General Assembly in Birmingham, AL, June 20-24. If you are there, please come by the Ministry to State booth in the Exhibit Hall.

### Prayer Requests

- Praise God for His continuing mercies which never fail and are new every morning!
- Praise God for His blessings upon recent preaching opportunities to preach at Covenant Reformed PCA – Pueblo, May 15, and Redeemer PCA – Parker, May 29
- Pray for upcoming preaching at Covenant PCA – Wheat Ridge, CO on June 19 and July 24, and Trinity Reformed PCA – New Castle, CO on July 10
- Praise God for Mr. S and his openness to using The Problem of Pain as a resource for our discussion, and pray for God to give me wisdom on how use these opportunities
- Praise God for the good meeting recently with the legislator, and for future meetings with him and other legislators through the summer
- For new donors, especially from individuals and churches in Colorado

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, friendship, and support!

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

To God's Glory,



*MTS: "Ministering to those serving in government" by*

- *winsomely demonstrating the love of Christ*
- *effectively communicating the truths of a biblical world-and-life view*
- *faithfully proclaiming the gospel*
- *diligently equipping churches to specifically and intelligently pray for people in government*

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Rev. Del Farris, State Capitol Minister-Colorado, 719-619-8590, [del@ministrytostate.org](mailto:del@ministrytostate.org), [www.ministrytostate.org](http://www.ministrytostate.org)