**BIBLE QUESTIONS: SESSION 27**

**Questions: *Why is there suffering and hardship in the world? What is the purpose of it for the saved? Why does the providence of God allow tragedies?***

1. *Why is there suffering and hardship in the world?*
	1. Suffering and hardship are a result of mans first and continual disobedience against God and his law.
		1. See Genesis 3 and Romans 1
2. What is the purpose of it for the saved?
	1. Testing their faith (Abraham, Job)
	2. Refining faith/Preparing for glory
	3. Sharing in the sufferings of Christ (St. Paul)
	4. Mystery (Job)
3. Why does the providence of God allow tragedies?
	1. Because the plan of God is to turn the world over to its own devices, so that all sin and idolatry will be revealed for the day of judgment.
		1. The present sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory that will be revealed.
		2. God’s power is made perfect in weakness.
		3. The Beatitudes…blessed are the poor, meek, persecuted…for theirs is the kingdom of God.
		4. Signs of the last days; birth pangs of the new creation
	2. Wrath against sin, to lead people to repentance.