



To begin with....

1 - We cannot understand everything about suffering

The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law. Deut 29 v29

2 – The Bible gives us massive help in facing the question

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path Ps 109 v105



1. Not oblivious

But he knows the way that I take;
when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold. Job 23:10

And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew. Ex 2 v24-25



2. Not original

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. Gen 1:31

The wages of sin is death Rom 6 v23

1. Not oblivious



3. Not pointless

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. Rom 8:28

More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, Rom 5:3-4

1. Not oblivious 2. Not original



3. Not pointless

Suffering provides the gym equipment on which my faith can be exercised. Joni Eareckson Tada

1. Not oblivious 2. Not original



3. Not pointless

"Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

1. Not oblivious 2. Not original



3. Not pointless

God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world. CS Lewis

1. Not oblivious 2. Not original



4. Not alone

It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed. Deut 31:8

1. Not oblivious 2. Not original 3. Not pointless



4. Not alone

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. Isa 43:1-2

1. Not oblivious 2. Not original 3. Not pointless



5. Not spared

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all. Rom 8 v31

a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief Isa 53 v3

He began to be greatly distressed and troubled. And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful Mark 14:33-34

1. Not oblivious 2. Not original 3. Not pointless 4. Not alone



5. Not spared

But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isa 53:5-6

1. Not oblivious 2. Not original 3. Not pointless 4. Not alone



5. Not spared

The wages of sin is death...

but God's free gift is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord Rom 6 v23

1. Not oblivious 2. Not original 3. Not pointless 4. Not alone



6. Not final

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. Rev 21:4

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison
2 Cor 4 v17

1. Not oblivious
2. Not original
3. Not pointless
4. Not alone
5. Not spared
6. Not final



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