Antigo Community Church – March 12, 2023

Title: Didn’t See That Coming!

Genesis 1:26-27

“Then God said, Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea, and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground. So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Romans 5:12

“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned…”

Romans 5:19

“For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.”

How can something go wrong when there is no right way for it to be in the first place?

Is it true that a good God always prevents evil as far as he is able to?

A good God always prevents suffering and evil unless he has a good reason to allow it.

What good reason might God have to allow evil in our world?

When God created the good gift of moral freedom (the ability to choose), He made evil possible. When we chose disobedience, we made evil actual.

Every evil that assaults us is the result of rejecting God’s rule.

Real love – our love for God and our love for each other must involve a choice.

Jesus on the cross – God caught in the act of loving us.

2 Corinthians 5:21

“God made him who had no sin, to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the

righteousness of God”

Without the cross, evil and suffering in this world would make no sense. Christ entered our suffering and took it upon Himself to make all things right. He paid the price our sin demanded so that one day He can END evil and suffering without ending us!

Revelation 21:1-5

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice saying, ‘Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’ He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new!’ Then he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’”