



Renewal School of Ministry

Term Offered: Winter 2022

Course Name: A Biblical Understanding of Suffering and Blessing

Course Times/Dates: 1.5 hour Zoom meetings for six weeks, Begins January 17 and meets on six consecutive Mondays. The classes will be live.

Course Content: People have long been perplexed by the issues of suffering and blessing. Why does God allow suffering? Why are some blessed while others suffer? We will examine various religious explanations for experiencing good and evil or suffering and blessing in our lives. We will compare those views to scriptural teaching on suffering and blessing. We will then apply our understandings of these teachings to our daily lives. The six topics in the term include:

1. Various views on suffering and blessing
2. Biblical teaching on suffering and persecution
3. Blessings and suffering in Job
4. Old Testament teachings on blessing
5. New Testament teaching on blessing
6. Understanding of the blessing of wealth

Requirements for Credit: To receive credit for the course students will need to:

- Attend every live Zoom session
- Participate in the class discussions
- Submit a one page critique of the “Prosperity Gospel”
- Give an oral report on the meaning of one of the following passages: Matthew 5:3-12; Luke 12:22-34; or 2 Corinthians 9:1-15. These reports should examine the meaning understood by their contemporaries and application for today.
- One absence is permitted as long as the student makes arrangements to watch the Zoom replay.

Book Requirements: No text required.

Costs: There is \$10 fee to cover costs for taking courses in the Renewal School of Ministry. Please enroll for the course/s on our website: www.hsrn.org .

Instructor: This course will be taught by Rev. Ed Owens. He graduated from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity. He served as the long-term pastor of the Olivet Baptist Church in Lansing, Michigan. He is the national chair of the Holy Spirit Renewal Ministries. He recently retired as a consultant for transition ministry with the American Baptist Churches of Michigan.
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