**Series: When in Doubt**

**Today: Seeking God in the Garden of Evil**

**Speaker: Ronnie Norman, Senior Minister**

**God is good, loving & powerful. Yet, evil exists.**

**Evil exists in many forms and many mysteries.**

***John 16:33***

*I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.*

**Sheep video** <https://youtu.be/W_4S5yBkSpU>

**God uses evil to demonstrate His goodness.**

***Genesis 50:20 (ESV)***

*As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many peopleshould be kept alive, as they are today.*

**God promises to eternally overthrow all evil.**

***Revelation 21:27 (NLT)***

*Nothing evilwill be allowed to enter…*

**Jesus is the ultimate choice to evil.**

***Romans 5:12-16***

*12Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—*

*15But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! 16Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man’s sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.*

If Jesus is the human face of God, as Christians affirm, then human beings have a God who cares, a God who acts on their behalf (even to the point of self-sacrifice), and a God who is now engaged in the complete conquest of evil and the reestablishment of universal shalom for all time. If Jesus is truly God revealed, then we can trust God in spite of the evil all around us and in us. – John Stackhouse

**Our personal response to evil? Faith, hope and love.**

***Romans 12:21***

*Don’t let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.*