

MESSAGE – 3-31-19 SUFFERING AS A PATH TO EMPATHETIC LOVE

- Melanie Mar Chow
- EBCLA Small group ministries
- Wife of Bruce, mom to Chloe
- AACF Operations Director

• "All praise goes to God, Father of our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One. He is the Father of compassion, the God of all comfort. He consoles us as we endure the pain and hardship of life so that we may draw from His comfort and share it with others in their own struggles. For even as His suffering continues to flood over us, through the Anointed we experience the wealth of His comfort just the same. If we are afflicted with such trouble and pain, then know it is so that you might ultimately experience comfort and salvation. If we experience comfort, it is to encourage you so that you can hold up while you endure the same sufferings we all share. Remember that our hope for you stands firm, unshaken and unshakable. That's because we know that as you share in our sufferings, so you will also share in our comfort...

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TIMOTHY & PAUL AUTHORS OF 2 CORINTHIANS

- Timothy's Great family mother was Lois, grandmother was Eunice (2 Tim
 1)
- Longing to see Timothy
- Co-Laborer (Romans 16:21), Like his Child (I Tim 1:2), A Brother (2 Cor. 1:1)

PAIN, HARDSHIP & SUFFERING

MATTHEW 25:33-36 (THE MESSAGE)

"When he finally arrives, blazing in beauty and all his angels with him, the Son of Man will take his place on his glorious throne. Then all the nations will be arranged before him and he will sort the people out, much as a shepherd sorts out sheep and goats, putting sheep to his right and goats to his left.

Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what's coming to you in this kingdom. It's been ready for you since the world's foundation. And here's why: I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,

I was homeless and you gave me a room, I was shivering and you gave me clothes, I was sick and you stopped to visit, I was in prison and you came to me.'

MATTHEW 25:37-43 (THE MESSAGE)

"Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.'

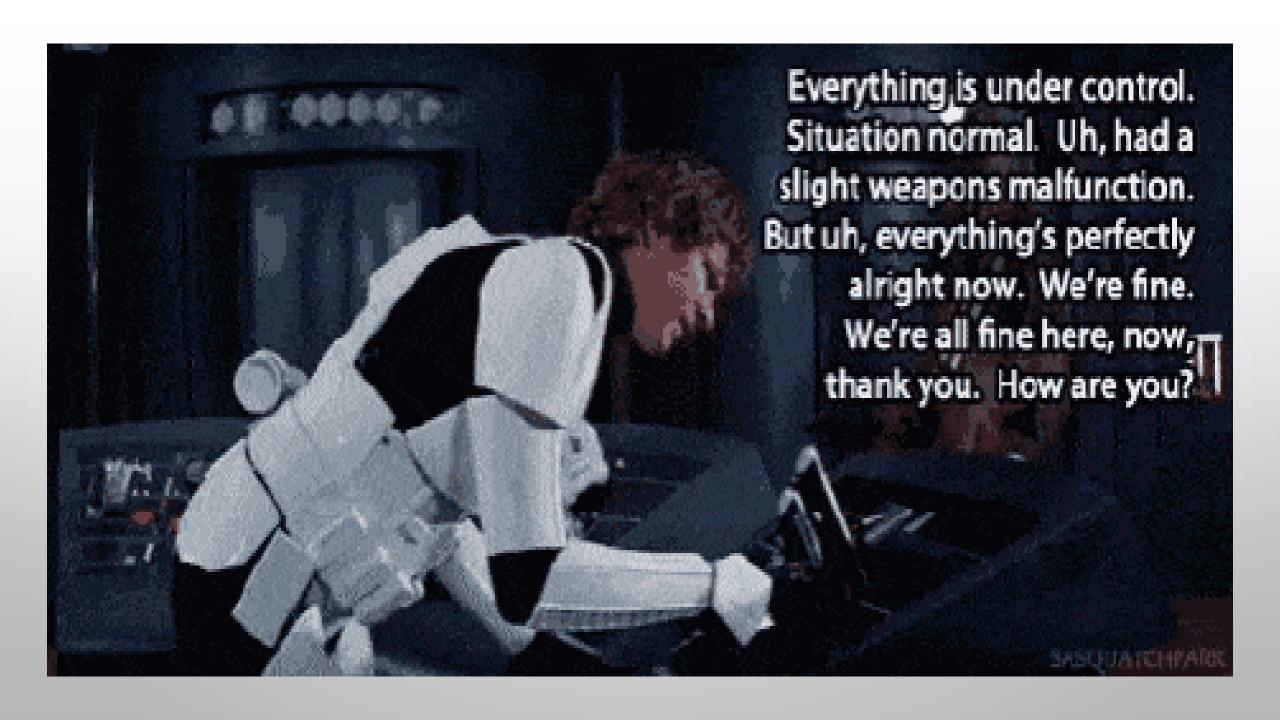
"Then he will turn to the 'goats,' the ones on his left, and say, 'Get out, worthless goats! You're good for nothing but the fires of hell.

SHEEP OR GOAT?



The photographer thought it was a goat. The photo editor thought it was a goat. Sure looked like a goat to the author of this post. It turns out to be a sheep, in Dakar, Senegal.

Claire Harbage for NPR



PHS – NOT PMS

PAIN HARDSHIP SUFFERING

EMPATHETIC LOVE?

PAIN HARDSHIP

SUFFERING

TO

TO

TO

PRAYER

HELP

SERVICE