

We live in a world full of disappointments and strife. Often people cause their own problems by the way they live. When a chain smoker gets lung cancer for instance, no one is surprised. But sometimes bad things happen to good people. People who don't seem to deserve it.

There are all types of examples. Accidents like car and plane crashes or just falling and breaking ones leg is common. Then there are diseases that kill thousands of people each year through no apparent fault of their own. There are even natural disasters like tornadoes, earthquakes and wild fires to name a few. Add to that terrible things like school shootings and terrorist attacks and it is easy to see why people would want an answer to the question, "Why do bad things happen to good people?"

What does the Bible have to say on the subject?

Job 14:1 says, "Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble."

The Bible admits the simple fact "LIFE IS HARD".

Paul also describes a bad thing that happened to him in 2 Corinthians 12. He said in verses 7-10...

"And lest I should be exalted above measure ..., there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me... For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. ...I take pleasure...in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

Paul just said that God allowed this thorn in the flesh for the purpose of keeping him humble.

So we see that God sometimes uses bad things to a good end.

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

James 1:3\* Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

It may sound strange, but though God does not DO bad things, by allowing them to happen he can do more good in the end.

Going back to the original question... Why do bad things happen to good people? I think we need to ask another question first.

## **ARE THERE ANY GOOD PEOPLE?**

Mark 10:18 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

Jesus just said there are no GOOD people.

We are all bad. We may not be as bad as some but we are all bad in the sense that we have sinned.

We have all broken God's laws and are guilty! As a result none of us can say that we are good.

Romans 3: 10-12 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Jesus just said that there is no one on the face of this earth that is good. That includes YOU!

There are bad things that happen on the earth. Nothing will change that. But, what about after this earth? What are you going to do when you stand before a Holy and Perfect God not having been good enough to enter into His heaven?

If you are guilty of even one sin it will separate you from God forever and you will spend all of eternity in Hell.

Jesus spoke of Hell often.. Three times He said it was a place, "Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." Mark 9.

Oh, but remember. Jesus said the only good person was God. And the Bible proclaims Jesus as God.

He is the only GOOD person that ever had bad things happen to him. But he volunteered! He suffered and died on the cross to pay our penalty for us.

Even though you are not good, God has a plan for you...

1. Accept the fact that you are a sinner.

Romans 3:23: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

2. Your penalty for sin is death .Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

3. The payment for your sins was paid in full.

Romans 5:8: But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

4. Believe in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection and trust Him to save you from sin's penalty.

John 1:12: But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

5. Call upon Him (in prayer) and God will answer.

Romans 10:13: For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Please, repent (turn from sin) today and trust in Jesus alone, and God will grant you the gift of everlasting life. Then read your Bible daily and obey it.

I would like to invite you to church where you can grow with your new faith and find help and fellowship with others who believe like you.



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# BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE

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