

Why Bad Things Happen

why? #4-5

Gary Chappel- June 1st, 2014

What does God have to say about bad things that happen?

Bad things are going to happen.

"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."

John 16:33 (NIV)

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted

1 Timothy 3:12 (NLT)

Bad things happen for three reasons:

1. Natural Consequences for my actions.

⇒ 1 Peter 4:12-19

⇒ 1 Peter 2:18-20

⇒ Luke 23:39-43

2. To test my faith.

⇒ James 1:2-4

⇒ Job!!!

3. A mixture of both!

Test are designed to...

1. Reveal – Show me the true depth of my faith.

⇒ **My faith is to impact EVERY area of my life!**

Search me, O God, and know my heart;

test me and know my anxious thoughts.
Point out anything in me that offends you,

and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

Psalms 139:23-24 (NLT)

⇒ **Tests should remind me of the goal**

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

Romans 8:28-29 (NLT)

2. Refine – Take my faith to deeper levels.

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:2-4 (NIV)

In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV)