



# Why Does God Allow Tragedy?

## *2 Corinthians 1:3-10 KJV*

[3] Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; [4] Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. [5] For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. [6] And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation. [7] And our hope of you is stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation. [8] For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life: [9] But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead: [10] Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;



## *In the beginning...*

### **1. God did not create a fallen world, He created a perfect world.**

Genesis 1:31 KJV

And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

### **2. God created man in His image and gave him dominion over His creation.**

Genesis 1:26-27 KJV

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. [27] So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

### **3. It was never God's intent that man should know good and evil, he explicitly told man not to touch the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.**

Genesis 2:16-17 KJV

[16] And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: [17] But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

### **4. There was no such thing as death in the Garden of Eden.**

Romans 5:12 KJV

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

### **5. God used death as a way for man to be reconciled to Him through sacrifice.**

Genesis 3:21 KJV

Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

### **6. God prevented man from being able to eat of the tree of life and live forever while he remained in his sinful state.**

Genesis 3:22-24 KJV

[22] And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: [23] Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. [24] So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Man relinquished the dominion God had given him over the world to Satan. We now live in a world that is controlled by evil. For God to override this would mean for God to change his original intent; God is unchanging because He already knows all things.

Malachi 3:6 KJV

For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

But God has given us a way to overcome the evil world and be reconciled with Him, first through animal sacrifice, which paid the sin debt but didn't remove the instance. Then through the death of His son Jesus on the cross, which removes all sin from us forever.

John 16:33 KJV

[33] These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

## *How Should We Respond to Tragedy?*

- 1. Express compassion and concern for the suffering and sorrow.**
- 2. Exercise our courage to face the dangers that confronts us with the confidence we have in almighty God.**
- 3. Execute our God-given responsibility to bring justice to those who perpetrate evil and obstruction.**
- 4. Enquire of God why has he allowed this to happen; where is God in all this?**

1 Corinthians 13:12 KJV

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

### **a. Why do the innocent suffer as well as the wicked?**

Revelation 22:11-12 KJV

[11] He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. [12] And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

### **b. The more we become aware of the ways of God, the more we become obligated to obey.**

Deuteronomy 29:29 KJV

The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

## *Why Would God Allow This?*

2 Peter 3:9 KJV

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

- 1. To warn us, to get our attention.**
- 2. To bring us a glimpse of where we are headed.**
- 3. To remind us of the fragility of life.**
- 4. To show us that God is our only hope ultimately.**

*God's word promises that one day the world will return to the way it was originally created in peace and harmony.*

Isaiah 11:6-9 KJV

[6] The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. [7] And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. [8] And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. [9] They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.