

## Chapter 1 : How can a good God allow evil and suffering? - Faith Facts

2) *Bad things happen to good people, but God uses those bad things for an ultimate, lasting good. "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans ).*

Frequently Asked Questions Why does God make people suffer? My child is suffering. Is it because I have sinned? If God is a God of love, why is there so much evil and suffering in the world? Does Satan have authority over the world? Why does God allow abuse and torture of innocent children? Why do bad things happen to good people? Did God create evil, or does He just allow it? Are natural disasters caused by God or Satan? Is it good to suffer? Introduction The reasons why a loving God would allow so much evil in the world are a mystery and a stumbling block to faith for many people. Why do good people sometimes suffer terribly while evil people live lives of ease? These are very difficult things to understand, but the Bible does give some clues. Physical Evil Illness, pain, earthquakes, floods, and other natural disasters are examples of physical evils. God may use physical evil to chastise individuals or nations and lead them to repent Isaiah Some physical evil may be the result of the original sin of Adam and Eve Genesis 3: God may use physical evil for a higher purpose: Physical evil is one means God uses to accomplish His work on earth John 9: It is very difficult to see any value in pain, suffering, loss of a loved one, disability, etc. However, these temporary evils are insignificant on the time scale of eternity, and they may just be a testing and preparation for better things to come. Despite all this, the reason for most physical evil is simply unknown to us. Moral evil is caused by our sinfulness and rebellion against God. It is the result of ignoring the Ten Commandments Exodus God gives all of us the free will to choose between good or evil, and many choose to follow the ways of evil James 1: Unfortunately, when some people choose the path of evil, others may suffer as a result. However, in eternity, the righteous will be rewarded and the evildoers will be punished. We may also cause suffering to ourselves as the natural consequence of sinfulness and unwise actions Proverbs 1: Evil Cannot Be Completely Eliminated Jesus said He did not come to eliminate evil from the world, but so that the kingdom of God can grow amid the evil of the world until the time when all evil is destroyed Matthew We cannot eliminate all evil in the world, but we can and should do our best to minimize the suffering it causes Matthew 5: Questions Does Satan Cause Evil? Satan is an evil being opposed to God and mankind. Satan is also called "the devil" Matthew 4: With faith, prayer and determination we can resist temptation Matthew 6: Satan, with his powers of temptation and deception, may be indirectly responsible for moral evils. Satan may also cause some physical evils Job 2: It is wrong to assume that someone who suffers is being punished for his or her sins or those of an ancestor Job 1: In Biblical times, many people believed that someone who was poor or suffering was being punished by God for sins. The selfish rich man ended up in hell, but the poor beggar Lazarus ended up in heaven. Although God may sometimes use physical evils to accomplish His purposes, the Bible says that God does not cause sin or moral evils James 1: Jesus said the cause of sin is within the human mind: All these vile things come from within; they are what defile you. We should expect some suffering in this life John Through suffering, we learn many valuable lessons such as humility and dependence on God Psalms God is treating you as children; for what child is there whom a parent does not discipline? Although we should patiently endure suffering when it comes, nothing in the Bible says we should seek suffering or martyrdom Psalms Living with Evil and Suffering Although we cannot eliminate all evil and suffering, people who develop great faith in God often find an inner peace that simply overshadows the evils of the world and the suffering we endure Psalms 4: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

*Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People? 1 of 3. Home > "Why would an all-good, all-knowing, and all-powerful God allow good things to happen to bad people?" After all, while seeing good.*

How can a good God allow evil and suffering? But, God loves us enough to give us free will. We are not robots. As a result, people make mistakes. In other words, in order to create a world with free moral creatures, God had to make a world where evil is a possibility. Thus, our own choices sometimes produce evil over good. Also, the choices of others including previous generations can produce suffering. The consequences of bad choices sometimes affect not only the person who makes the wrong choice but also their family, friends, and sometimes even society. A loving parent stops a child from putting his hand on a hot stove. The child "suffers" at the moment by being denied access and by the temporary pain of a spanking. But the parent sees the "big picture" and disciplines the child. So, too, can God discipline us. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. Suffering can produce benefits greater than the suffering itself. It can strengthen people, lead people to faith, help us to appreciate the good, and be a tool to influence others. Indeed, suffering can mold us. The actual trials of faith are worthwhile and precious as is faith itself! Our faith is strengthened as we rely on Christ to see us through troubling times. He died a horrible death by stoning. Why would God let that happen? We are told that the persecution of the church led to Christians being scattered. Wherever they went they and preached the word. This scattering resulted in the good news being preached throughout the world Acts 2: This interview with Tony Snow about his cancer gives a wonderful testimony of faith through suffering. Tony passed away in the summer of The title of the interview is: We may not know the reason for suffering in any individual situation. But we can affirm, with relief and joy, that in "all things God works for the good of those who love him" Romans 8: The Psalms are full of cries for deliverance from trouble as well as the assurance that God is with us and will deliver us from suffering. Actually, the reality of evil, suffering, and injustice—when considered fully—is an argument for the existence of a good God. Certainly, abandoning God does not make the problem of suffering any easier. There can be such a thing only if there is a way that rational creatures are supposed to live, obliged to live A [secular] way of looking at the world has no place for genuine moral obligation of any sort Accordingly, if you think there really is such a thing as horrifying wickedness It is the knowledge that God sent His only son to suffer and die for us that our sins are forgiven and that our ultimate suffering will be relieved. As Paul Little proclaims, God is "not only aware of suffering—he feels it. No pain or suffering has ever come to us that has not first passed through the heart and hand of God Comforting are the words of Isaiah the prophet, foretelling the agony of Christ: This means that every horrible thing that ever happened will not only be undone and repaired, but will in some way make the eventual glory and joy even greater. The Christian answer is that there are no good people! None of us deserves the life that we have, which is a gratuitous gift from God. No one gets caught up in suffering due to natural events is truly innocent. Ultimately, Christianity offers a solution. God, through his mercy and grace, offers forgiveness, reconciliation, and hope in Jesus Christ. The skeptic can use evil and suffering as a stone against Christianity, but he has no consolation in his own worldview. Christianity is the only religion or worldview that has an answer to evil and suffering. Eastern religions ignore evil; Darwinism and Communism rely on it; atheism is clueless about it; and Islam has a superficial view of it. Only Christianity provides an answer—that we are living in an abnormal world which God will restore in heaven. For more on this, see our Christian Cram Course. For more helpful insights into this topic, check out these links:

**Chapter 3 : Why does God allow good things to happen to bad people?**

*3 Surprising Reasons Why a Good God Allows Bad things to Happen in Your Life Peter Guirguis May 12, Encouragement 37 Comments You're going through life, and you think that everything is going wonderfully.*

Why does God allow good things to happen to bad people? This question is similar to its opposite: The 73rd Psalm is our answer to the very same questions that also tormented the psalmist. The writer of this Psalm was a man named Asaph, a leader of one of the temple choirs. Obviously, he was not a wealthy man, but rather one who had dedicated his life to serving God see 1 Chronicles But, like us, he had experienced some difficulties and questioned the injustice of it all. He watched the evil people around him living by their own rules, enjoying all the wealth and pleasures of the world and collecting riches. He complains, "They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong. They are free from the burdens common to man; they are not plagued by human ills" Psalm They could pay their bills. They had plenty to eat and plenty of luxuries. But poor Asaph was stuck with directing the choir and trying to live godly. He began to envy these people and even to question God as to why He would allow such a thing to happen! How often do we find ourselves relating to Asaph? We dedicate our lives to serving God. Then we witness the wicked, ungodly people around us get new possessions, luxurious homes, promotions, and beautiful clothes, while we struggle financially. The answer lies in the rest of the psalm. Asaph envied these evil people until he realized one very important thing. When he entered the sanctuary of God, he fully understood their final destiny: Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin. How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! Those who have temporary riches on earth are in reality spiritual beggars because they do not have true riches—eternal life. There are many times when we do not understand what is happening to us, nor do we understand how providence works. When Asaph entered the sanctuary of God, he began to see that there was no need for him to be envious of the prosperity of the wicked because their prosperity is an illusion. He began to comprehend that the ancient deceiver, Satan, had used lies to distract him from the reality of God. Upon entering the sanctuary, Asaph realized that prosperity is a fleeting fulfillment, like a pleasant dream that pleases us only for a little while but, when we awaken, we realize it was not real. Asaph rebukes himself for his own stupidity. His thoughts then returned to his own happiness in God when he realized how much more joy, fulfillment, and true spiritual prosperity he had in the Creator. We may not have everything we want here on earth, but we will one day prosper for all eternity through Jesus Christ our Lord. Whenever we are tempted to try the other road, we should remember that the other road is a dead end Matthew 7: But the narrow road before us through Jesus is the only road that leads to eternal life. That should be our joy and our comfort. And earth has nothing I desire besides you. Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge. We only need to keep our focus on our Creator and enter into His presence every day through the portal of His holy Word. There we will find truth, contentment, spiritual riches, and eternal joy.

**Chapter 4 : Why Does God Allow "Bad" Things to Happen to Good People? - The Praying Woman**

*One of the most common questions believers and unbelievers alike ask is why a loving and all-powerful God would allow bad things to happen. When many believers are asked this question, they freeze, not knowing what to say.*

Share Tweet email Psalm Why does God allow suffering in the world? If God loves us, why does he allow pain in our lives? These are some of the most asked questions in the world. The human heart wonders where the love of God is when we experience hard times. The problem, however, is never with the love of God. While the Bible makes clear that no one is truly good Romans 3: So while all people need Jesus, some people really do live better lives than others. All humanity is totally affected by sin, but not every human produces the same level of sin in every area of their life. Why does God allow people like this to suffer sometimes while people who live worse lives do not suffer as much sometimes? We have a surface mentality where we assume God acts like all of us. When humans are mad at one another, they do harm to each other. When we are happy with one another, we do nice things to each other. God, however, does not base his actions towards us based on our behavior. Rather, God does what he does towards us because of his own character. Do not even the tax collectors do the same? Good things happen to bad people because God is good. While most humans spend their time thinking of how God must be wrong for treating good people badly, the reality is that we should be amazed at how good God treats bad people, which is all of us. One prime example of this occurs in John 9: The main way God produces good through bad things is by glorifying himself through the hardship. God glorifies himself through bad things in many ways. Heaven and the new earth will not ultimately be paradise because we will have all the earthly things we want. Rather, the greatest joy of heaven will be our perfected relationship with God himself. Likewise, hell will not ultimately be the worse place ever because of the absence of earthly pleasures. It will be torturous because the presence of God will be completely absent there. Hell is separation from God. Heaven is the presence of God. So we should not assume God is pleased with our behavior just because we have what we want in life. And we should not assume God is mad if we are going through hard times. His greatest gift to us is always himself. There is nothing more pleasurable to the human heart than the presence of God. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. When we live for earthly rewards, we lose our earthly opportunity to gain heavenly rewards in Christ. There are two forms of judgment in the Bible. All Christians will pass the first form of judgement and enter into heaven by the grace of God Revelations However, all Christians will also be judged for how we served God while we were on earth 2 Corinthians 5: So why do good people experience bad things on earth? Because our ultimate reward for our service to God on earth is not received on earth but in eternity with God. You may also like:

**Chapter 5 : Why Does God allow Bad things to happen to Good people? | GodLife**

*We grow up believing that bad things happen to bad people and good things happen to good people. While that helps to develop our character when we're young, we come to believe this as an absolute; something we can count on.*

This question is probably as old as religion itself. It is a stumbling block for some of us, and for many more at given moments of tragedy. There are as many answers to this question as there are people who care to engage in theological dialogue. One understanding is that yes, God allows "bad" things to happen; God does not cause them to happen. But God does not cause "bad" things to happen. God loves us and grieves with us in our pain when "bad things" happen. Therefore, we might best respond by saying that God does not Will "bad" things to happen in life. Rather, "bad" things happen in the freedom that comes with the gift of life. Any "bad" thing which happens is never the last word. Rather, God is the deepest and last word, and that word is love and eternal life with God. Bailey Like so many people, I have struggled with this question as it pertains to my own life and the lives of others. Only by coming to terms over time with something terribly sad in my life have I come to understand the role God plays when human tragedies occur. I now feel that my God does not send bad things to punish us or test us. In fact, God does not send them at all. Rather I sense that there are powerful forces loose in the world, forces like evil, disease and death. If God is not sending the disease, the accidents, the tragedies, then why not, Zeus-like, step in and prevent them? For me, this is a harder question. The experience of the individual cries so clearly for divine intervention, for healing, for salvation from emotional or physical pain. Although sometimes miraculous healings do occur which suggest the presence of the Divine, in my experience there generally is not much physical intervention. However, the "intervention" I have experienced has been as powerful as anything physical. I have grown certain that God actually mourns these horrible events with us, that God is as sad, even more so, about what is happening to me as I am. God would never wish harm on any one of His beloved children. He is always there with us, holding us in our deepest sorrows as well as our wildest joys. I believe that, but I have not always believed this way. I have drawn much comfort, reassurance and a growing sense of peace from these two thoughts. Until recently, I believed, on some level, that when something bad happened to me or to anyone somehow I had done something wrong, and I was being punished. Call it karma, bad luck or "making my bed. He never wishes any harm to visit me. The "me" is really "we" here, but first I have to know the unlimited and unconditional nature of God for myself. Only then can I be a witness to it in others. I now know, without a doubt, that my God never wishes bad in the world. How could there be a God, they wonder, who allows so much evil to take place? I would answer these people by assuring them that God does exist and He deeply cares about His children. He cares so much, in fact, that He suffered crucifixion and death so that we might truly live. I believe suffering results from our separation from God. He is holy, all-powerful, all-loving, all that is good. Each day I find myself doing things that move me away from Him. Every time I sin, the world becomes a little bit worse. I can do no good thing apart from God. The more I separate myself from Him, the more likely I am to cause someone else harm or pain. To me Christianity is about God seeking us out, calling us back to him. In this life, we are separated from Him, so there will be suffering. However, if we use this precious gift of life to answer His call, He will deliver us into an eternity of peace. He has given us a choice, but most of us choose to reject Him.

**Chapter 6 : Why does a loving God allow bad things to happen?**

*Good things happen to bad people because God is good. While most humans spend their time thinking of how God must be wrong for treating good people badly, the reality is that we should be amazed at how good God treats bad people, which is all of us.*

Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people? We live in a world of pain and suffering. God is sovereign, so all that happens must have at least been allowed by Him, if not directly caused by Him. The book of Job deals with the issue of why God allows bad things to happen to good people. Job was a righteous man Job 1: God allowed Satan to do everything he wanted to Job except kill him, and Satan did his worst. Job did not understand why God had allowed the things He did, but he knew God was good and therefore continued to trust in Him. Ultimately, that should be our reaction as well. Why do bad things happen to good people? All of us are tainted by and infected with sin Ecclesiastes 7: All of us feel the effects of sin in one way or another. We live in a fallen world, and we experience the effects of the fall. One of those effects is injustice and seemingly senseless suffering. Christians have an eternal perspective: Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. We will have a reward some day, and it will be glorious. Those with battle scars can better help those going through the battles. Jesus was the only truly Righteous One, yet He suffered more than we can imagine. We follow in His footsteps: To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. Jesus is no stranger to our pain. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Jesus loved us enough to die to take the penalty for our sins Romans 6: If we receive Jesus Christ as Savior John 3: God allows things to happen for a reason. Whether or not we understand His reasons, we must remember that God is good, just, loving, and merciful Psalm Often, bad things happen to us that we simply cannot understand. We walk by faith, not by sight.

Chapter 7 : Why does God allow innocent people to suffer? â€¢ [www.nxgvision.com](http://www.nxgvision.com)

*We need not concern ourselves when good things seem to happen to bad people. We only need to keep our focus on our Creator and enter into His presence every day through the portal of His holy Word. There we will find truth, contentment, spiritual riches, and eternal joy.*

Socialize Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people? There is no harder question in all of life and theology than this one. First, we need to rethink our definitions of "good" and "bad". According to the Bible, there are no truly "good" people. Yes, that sounds harsh, but hold on. Before you click away, remember that "good" does not refer to the nice guy who walks his dog daily, helps old ladies across the street, and serves at the local homeless shelter. When we are talking about "good" in this context, we are referring to righteousness. To be righteous means that you are blameless before God. Strictly speaking, instead of saying, "She is good," it actually would be more accurate to say, "She is less bad. We are completely unable to rid ourselves of that sin without accepting Christ as our Savior. Sin is what He is saving us from. Check out Romans 3: Their throat is an open grave, with their tongues they keep deceiving, the poison of asps is under their lips; whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness; their feet are swift to shed blood, destruction and misery are in their paths, and the path of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes. That includes you and me. Why is this so important? Because God is unchanging, and He cannot tolerate sin. God literally cannot stand our sinful nature. Do you want God to be able to change His mind? If we had a God who could change His mind, then how could we ever trust His promises? All of this boils down to one terrifying truth We all deserve Hellâ€”every last one of us. Well, yes, it is! There is no way around it. There is no sin, no fib, and no bad attitude so small that does not sentence you to that fate. God is a righteous, holy God who cannot tolerate even what we feel is the smallest sin. And this is why the gospel is called the Good News. Christ was the only One who could pay the price for our sin. And then freely offers us our salvation from what we deserve. All we have to do is receive Him as our Lord and Savior John 3: See, His perspective is so much bigger than ours, and He knows a lot more about the big picture than we do. We live in a fallen world, all of which is touched by sin. And He knows the whole story from beginning to end and what will happen after the smoke has cleared. Why would a loving God would allow these things to happen? One thing I have found comforting when bad things happen is to stop and realize that everything we are seeing is the now. We do not know how the Lord will use this event to shape the future. And we are left with two choices: Be angry with God for allowing this horror to happen. Follow the instructions in Proverbs 3: So we must trust in the Lord, know He is in control, and know that no matter how bleak things may seem, nothing can change His goodness, or tear His children away from His gift of salvation and eternal life. To be "good" is to be "righteous. We live in a fallen world, all of which is touched by sin, and bad things will happen to everyone at some point. He knows the whole story from beginning to end, and His perspective is much bigger than ours. Heidi Joelle Heidi Joelle is an executive assistant by day and a writer, editor, and reader by night. She can be coaxed from the house by the sound of a good adventure or traveling somewhere new. All comments get moderated, so yours will show up as "awaiting moderation" every time. Jerks will be banned. Not sorry about that.

**Chapter 8 : Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people? - Christian Research Institute**

*Why does a good and sovereign God let bad things happen? Again, I do not know, but that's only one of many sacred truths that a mere mortal like me cannot grasp. This essay was adapted from an earlier version about the same topic, published in*

First of all, technically speaking there are no good people. The Bible says in Romans 3: Together they have become useless. There is none who does good. There is not even one. No one is good except God alone. On the other hand, from a human perspective, there are decent people who are very nice. So why would God allow bad things to happen to them? The easiest answer lies in the effect of sin. Sin is in the world, and it affects everyone to different degrees. I once heard an illustration where someone said that when someone throws a grenade into a crowd, one person gets hit, but another does not. It affects people differently, some a lot and some a little. Also, God can allow bad things to happen to good people in order to teach them lessons, to discipline them, to improve their character, to encourage them to depend on him, etc. We also know that God is good, so we must conclude that he allows bad things to occur because they are according to his sovereign plan and ultimately it will work out for good - especially for those who love him Romans 8: Also, think about this. If we want God to stop bad things happening to good people, where is the line to be drawn? Or, what level of bad do we want God to stop at? What about a bad thing that can ultimately lead to a good thing, such as the crucifixion of Jesus? Should such really bad things be stopped when they can lead to greater good? What is bad to one person might not be bad for another.

**Chapter 9 : Why does God let bad things happen in the world? - explore faith**

*Third, the Bible tells us that in the meantime, God can give us victory over evil. This doesn't mean bad things will never happen to usâ€”but even when they do, we can know God is with us, and He will give us strength to stand against them.*

See this page in: All true science and history , if rightly understood, support the fact of God. This evidence is so strong that, as the Bible says: And this problem of suffering is the greatest of these. That is, they say, how can a God of love permit such things in His world as war , sickness, pain, and death , especially when their effects often are felt most keenly by those who are apparently innocent? Either He is not a God of love and is indifferent to human suffering, or else He is not a God of power and is therefore helpless to do anything about it. In either case, the Biblical God who is supposedly one of both absolute power and perfect love becomes an impossible anachronism. Or so they claim! This is a real difficulty, but atheism is certainly not the answer, and neither is agnosticism. While there is much evil in the world, there is even more that is good. This is proved by the mere fact that people normally try to hang on to life as long as they can. We need also to recognize that our very minds were created by God. We can only use these minds to the extent that He allows, and it is, therefore, utterly presumptuous for us to use them to question Him and His motives. We ourselves do not establish the standards of what is right. Only the Creator of all reality can do that. We need to settle it, in our minds and hearts, whether we understand it or not, that whatever God does is, by definition, right. Having settled this by faith , we are then free to seek for ways in which we can profit spiritually from the sufferings in life, as well as the blessings. As we consider such matters, it is helpful to keep the following great truths continually in our minds. As far as babies are concerned, and others who may be incompetent mentally to distinguish right and wrong, it is clear from both Scripture and universal experience that they are sinners by nature and thus will inevitably become sinners by choice as soon as they are able to do so. God did not create the world this way, and one day will set all things right again. And this He did for us! He suffered and died, in order that ultimately He might deliver the world from the Curse , and that, even now, He can deliver from sin and its bondage anyone who will receive Him in faith as personal Lord and Savior. This great deliverance from the penalty of inherent sin , as well as of overt sins, very possibly also assures the salvation of those who have died before reaching an age of conscious choice of wrong over right. The sufferings of unsaved men are often used by the Holy Spirit to cause them to realize their needs of salvation and to turn to Christ in repentance and faith. Does God feel our pain? Answer What about the issue of suffering? Answer How can I know if the Bible is true? Answer Can the Bible be infallible if it is written by fallible humans? Answer Is the Bible completely accurate, or does it contain some inaccuracies about history and science? Answer How can I know if Christ really rose from the dead? Answer Does Hell really exist? Answer What does God basically expect of me? Answer Why should I go to church? Answer With so many cults and denominations, how can I decide which are true and which are false? Answer How can I know which religion is true? Answer Is Jesus Christ the answer to your problems? Net users generous rights for putting this page to work in their homes, personal witnessing, churches and schools.