



WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN!?

By The Members of New Testament Baptist Church
Artwork by Hannah Stanfield

When trials and catastrophes arise, how often do we ask why? Pain, suffering and turmoil plague all our lives. When these times come our way, we must remember that even Jesus had to answer the same question.

In the book of John 9:2, Jesus was

asked: “Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus told the disciples that it was neither the man nor his parent’s sins that caused his blindness but “that the works of God should be manifest.” Sometimes we see situations and problems as bad things when, in fact, it is an opportunity for God’s power and glory to shine through us.

Paul said in 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.” Sometimes it is simply human perception that makes situations seem “bad.” Joseph told the same brothers that had sold him into slavery, “ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good,” (Genesis 50:20).

On the other hand, sometimes these “bad” events are teachable moments. Consider this, our actions can bring about these troubling times. Jonah

decided to attempt to run from God after having been instructed to go and preach to Nineveh. God punished him by causing him to be swallowed by a great fish. (Jonah 1:1-17) This punishment for sinful actions is called chastisement. The Bible says, in both Hebrews 12:5-6 and Deuteronomy 8:5, that God chastises those He loves like a good parent does a child.

Unlike Jonah’s situation, serving God faithfully can lead to Christians being persecuted. “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” (2 Timothy 3:12) Ridicule, bigotry, intolerance, blasphemy and family isolation are some, but certainly not all, of the persecutions we may face. Despite this, Peter encourages us to “rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings;”(1 Peter 4:12-14).

So, dear friend, no matter the trials or tribulations, remember Christ works all

New Testament Baptist Church

Email: doverpastor@gmail.com

Website: www.ntbcdover.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/newtestamentbaptistdover/>

-Address-

805 Natcor Drive
Dover, TN 37058

-Service Times-

Sunday School 10:00AM

Sunday Preaching 11:00AM

Sunday Evening 1:30PM

Wednesday Evening Preaching 7:00PM

events in our lives to bring about his will. Paul said that though no one else stood with him “Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me and strengthened me.” (2 Timothy 4:16-17) When difficult times arise, evaluate the reason they are happening. Is it chastisement? Revelation 3:19 offers this, “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.” Is it tribulation for the name of Christ? In John 16:33 Christ said, “be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” Furthermore, Paul encourages us in Romans 8:35-39 that, “we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.”

God is the comforter in all things.

“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation,” (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).

Facing the difficulties of life can be challenging. It is even more challenging

without God. Jesus promised those that know him he would never “leave or forsake” them. (Hebrews 13:5) The Bible says that those who do not know Jesus are “dead in trespasses and sins” and “are without Christ.” (Ephesians 2:1 & 12). Only Jesus is the answer for this hopeless condition. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 that Jesus lived a perfect life, was crucified, buried and rose again for our salvation. Romans 10:9 says, “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.” Do you know the Comforter?