

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN FACED WITH ADVERSITY, TRIALS, AND TRAGEDY?

FIRST, I WANT TO DEAL WITH THE “WHY ?”

WHY DO WE, THE LOVERS OF JESUS, CHILDREN OF GOD, HAVE TO GO THROUGH THIS STUFF ?

WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE ?

IT IS OK TO ASK GOD WHY, IT’S OK TO GET MAD AT GOD / EVENTUALLY, YOU WILL SEE GOD IS STILL POWERFUL AND HE IS FULL OF GRACE AND MERCY

HABAKKUK, A PROPHET IN JUDAH, IN 605 BC WRESTLES WITH GOD

Habakkuk 1:13New International Version (NIV)

¹³Your eyes are too pure to look on evil;
you cannot tolerate wrongdoing.
Why then do you tolerate the treacherous?
Why are you silent while the wicked
swallow up those more righteous than themselves?

Habakkuk 2:1New International Version (NIV)

2 I will stand at my watch
and station myself on the ramparts;
I will look to see what he will say to me,
and what answer I am to give to this complaint.^[a]

Footnotes:

a. [Habakkuk 2:1](#) Or *and what to answer when I am rebuked*

GOD IS DOING SOMETHING BIG

GOD DOES NOT CONDONE EVIL, HE IS NOT OK WITH IT

Psalm 5:4New International Version (NIV)

⁴For you are not a God who is pleased with wickedness;
with you, evil people are not welcome.

THIS IS A FALLEN WORLD WITH A FALLEN PEOPLE AND BAD STUFF WILL HAPPEN

WE ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM DISASTER HERE ON EARTH BUT WE HAVE A PROMISE FROM GOD THAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 Peter 1:3-7 New International Version (NIV)

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷These 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

WE WERE NOT ORIGINALLY MADE TO DIE/ THAT'S WHY SEPERATION HURTS SO BAD

WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT WE ALL DEAL WITH THINGS DIFFERENTLY

HOW WE WERE RAISED, PREVIOUS LIFE EXPERIENCES, AND OUR CAPACITY TO DEAL WITH STRESSFUL SITUATIONS ALL PLAY A PART IN THE WAY WE DEAL WITH STUFF

OUR FEELINGS, ALTHOUGH VALID AND REAL, ARE NOT THE TRUTH

EXPLAIN

NOBODY IS EVER "READY"NOBODY HAS EVER SAID " YOU KNOW, I'M READY FOR THE YOU KNOW WHAT TO HIT THE FAN"

JESUS TELLS US STRAIGHT UP

Matthew 5:44-45New International Version (NIV)

⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

WHY DO YOU THINK PAUL TELLS US AND THE CHURCH OF EPHESIS TO PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD ?

BECAUSE 1 OUNCE OF PREPERATION OR PREVENTETIVE MAINTENANCE IS WORTH MORE THAN A POUND OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE

TRADEGDY CAN WIPE YOU OUT, THE DEVIL WOULD LOVE NOTHING MORE

IMAGINE PAUL, LIKE A GENERAL, PUMPING UP THE TROOPS FOR WAR

MOST OF HIS AUDIENCE LIVED IN ASIA MINOR, THEY WOULD ENVISION A ROMAN SOLDIER

Ephesians 6:14-17New International Version (NIV)

¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

SIDE NOTE : PAUL DID NOT MAKE ALL OF THIS UP HIMSELF, HE STUDIED THE WORD OF GOD

Isaiah 11:5New International Version (NIV)

⁵ Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist

Isaiah 59:17New International Version (NIV)

¹⁷ He put on righteousness as his breastplate,
and the helmet of salvation on his head;

he put on the garments of vengeance
and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak.

Isaiah 52:7 New International Version (NIV)

How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
“Your God reigns!”

CHARACTER WINS THE BATTLE NOT VIOLENCE

OUR BATTLE IS NOT WITH FLESH AND BLOOD, BUT AGAINST SPIRITUAL
FORCES OF EVIL IN HEAVENLY REALMS

FAITH BUILDS CHARACTER, FAITH COMES FROM HEARING, HEARING
COMES FROM THE WORD OF GOD

WE ARE NOT VICTIMS, WE ARE SOLDIERS, WHO ULTIMATELY WIN

JESUS CONQUERED SIN, DEATH, AND HELL

I'D LIKE TO PRESENT SOME SOLUTION THROUGH SCRIPTURE FOR :

ADVERSITY

WE ALL HAVE & WILL EXPERIENCE ADVERSITY

ADVERSITY IS THE LIGHTEST OF THE THREE

IT'S FRUSTRATING BUT DOABLE, USUALLY SOME ENCOURAGEMENT FROM
ANOTHER AND SOME FAITH FROM THE WORD CAN GET YOU THROUGH TO THE
OTHER SIDE

Isaiah 30:19-21 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁹ People of Zion, who live in Jerusalem, you will weep no more. How gracious he will be when you cry for help! As soon as he hears, he will answer you. ²⁰ Although the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, your teachers will be hidden no more; with your own eyes you will see them. ²¹ Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

ADVERSITY IS MEANT TO TEACH US SOMETHING, WE GROW THROUGH ADVERSITY / IT'S A PAIN IN THE BUTT, BUT EITHER WAY IT GOES, WE EITHER LEARN, OR WE DON'T

TRIALS

TRIALS LAST LONGER THAN ADVERSITY, TRIALS CAN BE SEASONS

GOD USES THESE TO TEACH US, LIKE ADVERSITY BUT WE HAVE TO DIG OUR HEALS IN MORE

THESE SEASONS ARE FULL OF DIEING TO SELF, SURRENDERING TO GOD'S WILL, AND FAITH THAT GOD MEANS WHAT HE SAYS AND SAYS WHAT HE MEANS

LIKE ADVERSITY, WE WILL NEED PEOPLE AROUND US FOR ENCOURAGEMENT AND PRAYER, HELP, AND EVEN GODLY ADVICE AND SUGGESTIONS

"YOU GOT THIS !" "THE SPIRIT OF GOD IS IN YOU !" "THANK YOU GOD FOR MEETING THEIR EVERY NEED !"

TRIALS ARE NEVER FUN, BUT THAT IS HOW WE GROW STRONGER IN FAITH AND IN CHARACTER

James 1:2-4 [New International Version \(NIV\)](#)

²Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,^[a] whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

TRADGEDY

THIS IS LIFE CHANGING AND DEVISTATING, ROCKING YOU TO THE VERY CORE OF YOUR BEING, MAKING YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'VE BEEN BLOWN INTO A MILLION PIECES

IF YOU HAVEN'T ASKED GOD WHY THROUGH THE ADVERSITY OR THE TRIALS....YOU WILL WHEN YOU ARE MET WITH TRADGEDY

THESE ARE THE TIMES THAT THE WORD OF GOD IN YOU, ROOTED IN YOU, WILL BE LIFE SAVING

THESE TIMES REQUIRE THE PRESENCE OF GOD LIKE NO OTHER

GOD IS SO FAITHFUL IN OUR MOST DESPERATE TIMES

Psalm 34:18 [\[Full Chapter\]](#)

The LORD is close to the **brokenhearted** and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Psalm 147:3 [New International Version \(NIV\)](#)

³He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

WE EXPERIENCE A MOVE OF GOD WHEN WE ARE BROKEN

HOW CAN SOMEONE MAKE IT THROUGH TO THE OTHER SIDE OF
TRAGEDY ? WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

IT IS THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST AND ETERNITY WITH GOD THAT
GETS US THROUGH IT

BEING IN A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS WHO WILL LIFT YOU UP WILL HELP
GET YOU THROUGH IT

THE REALITY OF THIS LIFE BEING THE PROCESS TO THE BEGINNING OF
ETERNITY GETS US THROUGH IT

YOU CAN KILL THIS EARTHLY BODY WHICH IS ALREADY Dying, BUT YOU
CANT KILL OUR SPIRIT

JESUS CONQUERED SIN, DEATH, AND HELL, WE WIN

Romans 8:10 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life^[a] because of righteousness.

Romans 6:23 New International Version (NIV)

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in^[a] Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hebrews 12:1-3 New International Version (NIV)

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the

cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

EVERYDAY WE HAVE A BREATH HERE ON EARTH, LET US WALK IN THE SPIRIT,
LET US WALK WITH GOD, LET US WALK WITH EACH OTHER, IN LOVE

THAT IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR PURPOSE AND PLAN HERE, UNTIL WE GO
HOME.

THAT'S WHEN REAL LIFE BEGINS