

Blaming God

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Our lives are full of opportunities to thank and praise the Lord for His blessings and special involvement in and with circumstances and situations that cause us grief and misunderstanding. There are times though, when we may doubt our position in God's forever family and actually blame him for some serious problem or negative situation. We have the answers along with His positive assurance through His Word and our personal relationship with him. We need to remember our position and claim the Truth as our guardian and rest in the knowledge that He promised He would never leave us or forsake us. *(cf. Deuteronomy 31.6 / Hebrews 13.5)*

God is the author of "good." *(cf. Genesis 1.31)* Everything bad, i.e. diseases, disasters, physical disorders, social disorders, fiscal calamities, even death, come through the efforts of Satan, Lucifer, the "shining one." *(cf. Isaiah 14.12-20)* From his point of entry into the affairs of mankind, we can see that Satan is and has been an influence of and for evil in the physical world and in the spiritual world as well. *(cf. 1 John 15.9)*

Since the time of Noah, mankind has had use of the earth and all it produces at their discovery and for their utilization. In modern times, we can review their accomplishments and failures by a simple examination of history. And, even the simplest of efforts to find out where we have been and what we have been doing during the time since the great flood, reveals the presence and influence of Satan in the affairs of mankind. Satan is against any good thing that honors and glorifies God. He cannot alter the perfect order of the universe that God created, but he can and has aggressively been involved in messing with every facet of mankind's association with what God has made.

God made a perfect earth for His creation to enjoy. Satan brought sin into the equation and the perfection God planned for His own became disorder and confusion. As a direct result of mankind's indulgence of Satan's will in and for our lives, we have permitted him to destruct and destroy much of what God has provided. From Noah and his descendants who survived the flood, through today, Satan has been active in his programs of deceit and prevarications to the extent that God is now being blamed for everything that causes us, or anyone, physical, emotional or mental discomfort and/or pain.

Sin, the opposite of God's will, was introduced into the world with Adam and Eve. It (*sin*) was with Noah and his descendants. Century upon century has produced an immeasurable amount of sin. Misuse of the earth, God's gift to mankind, has resulted in or produced great quantities of inappropriate combinations of natural elements. Disease and illness are products of sin. God did not create cancer. It developed as a result of sin. Cell mutation is directly attributable to Satan. Name an affliction. It is or was caused by

sin. God has not, never has and will not “will” anyone to be oppressed with sickness and disease. However, His perfect will has been and will continue to be demonstrated in the way He addresses a particular situation and uses it for His purpose.

An example of God using a Satan caused affliction to demonstrate His healing power is/was when the Lord Jesus Christ gave sight to a man who had been blind from birth. God allowed, didn't cause, the blindness to occur. The malformation of physical sight characteristics in the womb of the mother, dysfunctional cell order during gestation, or whatever caused the man to be born blind, was a result of Satan's influence in the lineage of this particular family. God knew about it and during Christ's time on earth, at the appointed time, He used His power and gave sight to the blind man. Satan put the particular sin in motion and it simply ran its course. He didn't sit around watching to see what would happen. His actions always result in something distasteful. All he does is initiate the process. In the case of the blind man, his “bad seed” resulted in the condition of fetal blindness. The man's parents and family were distraught of course, but Satan got the glory he wanted when everyone blamed God. God used the man's life-long condition for His glory. The example here is Christ healed the condition.

When “common sickness” is involved we can usually persevere, ride it out and let the bodies God has so wonderfully made see us through. Some people are sick because they refuse to do right with their eating, activities, etc. Our bodies belong to the Lord, if we belong to him, i.e., if we are born again through faith and saved by God's grace. Even so, Satan has access to our mental processes even if we are believers. Over the centuries since creation he has been busy pushing his program and just generally messing with the minds and bodies of everyone who became or becomes exposed to his message and methods. His actions and those of his demonic associates caused massive problems throughout history. Today, this same alliance produces sickness and disease, along with all types of calamity, in all sectors of the world.

We are all aware of some believers who are suffering or who have suffered greatly because of a severe illness or some afflicting disease. We accept or try to accept the premise that God does not “will” anyone to such a condition, but none-the-less it is occurring in our own life or the life of someone we know and love. As believers we are not to test God. Through the Prophet Isaiah God tells us: “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord.” (*Isaiah 55.8 NIV*)

It is quite possible and with some degree of probability, God will allow a situation or circumstance to exist or come upon us for a purpose. A purpose we may or may not understand but can accept because God's ways always have reason or meaning. Faith is the part of His will He wants us to use and trust in His bigger and more significant plan. If we accept God's will concerning whatever situation or condition He brings to, or allows

into our life, we can glorify Him in/with/by our infirmities and rejoice all the more whether we are healed or not. We should embrace our position in Christ like the Patriarchs of King David's time, and know that Christ has the power to heal any illness or disease and restore anyone who, through faith believes for the healing and trusts God for the outcome, as taught by Christ's Disciples and made clear in God's Word. (*cf. Psalm 103.2-3 / Jeremiah 33.6*)

God made everything in and of the earth perfect and flawless and put it all into the care and custody of the first man and woman. Satan, with his wicked friends and through his wicked ways, corrupted the earth and mankind when he bamboozled Adam and Eve, took control of the earth, began his conspiracy to take over and show God he was the "power-broker" of the universe. His involvement in the affairs of mankind progressed and re-progressed through the centuries since creation to a place in today's world where he has a pre-eminent position.

Many of God's creation no longer place their faith and trust in God. They blame Him when illness, disaster and all types of calamity comes upon them. It seems easier to complain and blame than to take God at His Word and trust Him with every facet of their lives.

As always, Christ is the answer. "... the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." (*Galatians 5.22-23 NIV*) So, for sure, love is the answer and Jesus is love. We must love the Lord with all our heart, mind and soul so that we may love ourselves and others. Loving God means we surrender to His will and accept His way as being superior to ours. And, this means we have to know in our hearts, deep down where we live, that God is in control, control of everything.

What He allows He allows for His purpose. As believers we have submitted our wills to His and accept His Word as confirmation of our guarantee. He made it clear through the Apostle Paul, who, in his first letter to the Corinthians wrote: "No temptation (*testing or trial*) has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted (*tested or tried*) beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted (*tested or tried*) he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it." (*1Corinthians 10.13 NIV*).

Is that true ? Doesn't God cause terrible things to occur ?

God created everything "good." (*cf. Genesis 1.31*) So, where did horrible diseases and other atrocities originate ? Mankind abused the earth and took advantage of the privileges God made available through Adam and Eve. God judged mankind for their wickedness with a flood that killed everyone on the earth, save Noah, his family and the

God chosen representatives of the animal kingdom. Biblical history alone tells the story of mankind and the surviving creatures as they dispersed into and around the world following the *Great Flood*.

Even though selected and chosen by God to replenish and repopulate the earth, Noah and his family were not without sin. They, like Adam and Eve and those who came through them, had a free will. They, like mankind today, were intelligent and curious. As the population grew some used their abilities and capabilities for the betterment of all. Some found ways to exploit others. God chose to confound their language which resulted in different customs, as well as unique understandings of nature. They found ways to use elements of nature for enhanced lifestyles. And, as with Adam and Eve, Satan slipped into the process. With his encouragement, some misused and abused the knowledge they were compiling. As a result, elements of nature that had been created and made good for mankind were combined and modified for purposes other than for what God intended.

Some lifestyles were enhanced while others degraded through the processes of use, misuse and abuse. Lucifer and his minions planted more seeds of dissent and greed spurred on by pride and jealousy. What God had intended for the good of mankind, mankind corrupted and altered the uses and applications. And, because mankind is by nature sinful, self-serving attitudes produced, and continues to produce, vile and morally corrupt concepts for life that result in maladies which affect entire cultures as well as individual communities and those who live there.

So, when we find ourselves facing severe challenges and situations which affect us physically and/or emotionally, we look for answers and reason. When we don't find them it is easy to blame God and accuse him of allowing such a condition or circumstance to develop. Some even say God is aware of whatever is occurring but He is unable or powerless to amend it. Certainly not a position supported or indorsed by/in Scripture. None-the-less, the question is almost always asked, "Why do bad things happen to good people?"

What about:

- A family member contracting a horrible disease and perhaps even dying from it.

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cancer. It developed as a result of sin. Cell mutation is directly attributable to Satan. Name an affliction. It is or was caused by or as a result of original sin. God has not, never has and will not “will” anyone to be oppressed with sickness and disease. However, His perfect will has been and will continue to be demonstrated in the way He addresses a particular situation and uses it for His purpose.

- A special friend or other loved one being killed in an auto accident, or some other type of incident.

Intelligence and progress are part of using our minds and natural resources to improve and advance during the process of life on earth. (*cf. Genesis 1.28 / Ecclesiastes 1.9*) As we have progressed through the centuries since creation, we have been blessed and oftentimes cursed with/by new products developed for supposed improvement to quality and convenience of life. And, accidents have been associated with mankind following the disaster that occurred in the Garden of Eden. The automobile is only one example. Operating a vehicle within the limits and constraints of its design and the regulations associated with its use is the responsibility of the operator and the authority charged with that responsibility. Abuse of that responsibility is mankind’s natural inclination toward sin.

Most, if not all accidents, occur without intent. (*If it was intentional, it wouldn’t be an accident*) Irresponsible driving of an automobile, even if it is done innocently and without malice, is wrong. No one appears concerned about driving over/under designated limits until such action causes or results in an unfortunate incident. Satan enjoys any calamity and its results, especially when God receives the blame.

- A child born with a serious, possibly hideous, birth defect.

As tragic and painful as this type of physical disconcertion may be, or become, it is/was not caused by God. Scripture provides an understanding of this through/with the words of the Apostle John. (*cf. John 9.1-6*) God allowed, didn’t cause, the blindness to occur. The malformation of physical sight characteristics in the womb of the mother, dysfunctional cell order during gestation, or whatever caused the man to be born blind, was a result of Satan’s influence in the lineage of this particular family. God knew about it and during Christ’s time on earth, at the appointed time, He used His power and gave sight to the blind man. Satan put the particular sin in motion and it simply ran its course. He didn’t sit around watching to see what would happen. His actions always result in something distasteful. All he does is initiate the process. In the case of the blind man, his “bad seed” resulted in the condition of fetal blindness. The man’s parents and family were distraught of course, but Satan got the glory he wanted when everyone blamed God. God used the man’s life-long condition for His glory.

- A personal involvement in/with a serious medical problem.

As God designed things, bacteria is a good thing. When managed and maintained in their respective and assigned areas of operation, they produce good results in/for our lives. But, in the history of man, ignorance, coupled with belligerence, has caused un-natural cellular and molecular relationships to occur. Over time, i.e., thousands of years of mankind's presence on the earth, cellular and molecular development has denigrated and mutated into causative agents that negatively affect our lives. Sickness and disease is associated with this undesirable process. And, when a dire medical or physical situation or circumstance comes into our life, we naturally want to know "why."

Believers have access to the greatest physician in the universe, who may determine in His will to immediately or progressively heal us. We also have God's personal assurance that nothing will come into or onto our life that we cannot endure, or He will provide a way to escape. (*cf. 1 Corinthians 10.13*) Even in an undesired medical or physical position, we have the promise from God that in His perfect will He works all things for good in accordance with His purpose. (*cf. Romans 8.28*)

We have the option of succumbing to Satan's desire and blame God, or accepting the situation as an opportunity to trust the Lord and praise him for how He will be glorified in the outcome. Whatever it is, it came to us through sin; the sin of others, or some sin in our own life. A believer has the responsibility to keep the affairs of life in check. (*cf. Ephesians 5.15-20*).

- A natural/un-natural disaster.

God's Word exclaims His attributes: Omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, eternal. Nothing has ever caught, nor will anything ever catch him by surprise. That said, it doesn't mean or even imply that He is not grieved when bad things happen to good people. His will from the beginning is for everyone to know him as LORD. But, all of mankind, since Adam and Eve, was/is conceived and born in sin. Satan did that for everyone. The earth was created perfect, as was the first man and woman. God judged the earth and mankind then renewed His commitment to mankind. He intervenes in the affairs of mankind on His terms, not Satan's or ours.

Severe climate conditions are present around the world as a result of sin. And mankind, while becoming more capable in predicting as well as tracking some of these events, is still unable to control them. (*cf. Ecclesiastes 8.7-8*).

Hurricane *Katrina* damaged property and caused death all along the Gulf Coast of the United States. Advanced warning spared many thousands of folks the grief associated with loss of life. Others actually refused to accept, or simply ignored the warnings. The

result was horrific. But who received the blame ? Somehow the affect Satan has on the earth goes unmentioned and God is tagged with not loving mankind enough to stop the event. No attention is given to some underlying conditions that added to the severity of the situation.

Many years earlier, greed replaced need in the hearts of those charged with constructing levees along the *Mississippi River* and around New Orleans, LA. History is available for those who want to look. Corrupt officials and contractors built the levees to a lesser condition than actually designed. (*Everybody knows the Government "over-designs" everything*). Piles were not driven to specified depths and backfill materials were not placed correctly. Those responsible for the work pocketed the difference and years later thousands suffered when those levees failed. As usual, the love of money is a root of evil, but somehow Satan gets a "pass."

- A vile and contemptable group making unreasonable demands on anyone who disagrees with them, under the penalty of death.

Edomites have been part of mankind's history from the time of Isaac and Ishmael, the sons of Abraham. The sons of Isaac were Esau and Jacob, from which developed the inner-family dispute (*oftentimes referred to as an everlasting hatred*) associated with Jacob acquiring Esau's birthright and subsequently Isaac's blessing as heir instead of Esau. The Arabs of today are descendants of Ishmael and Esau. The Israelites, or Jews of today, are descendants of Isaac and Jacob. The struggle between the Israelis and the Arabs today is a continuation of the hatred that began with Jacob and Esau. (*cf. Genesis 25.21-26*). Recognition of this "everlasting hatred," and its embodiment in Islam, is essential to our understanding its current-day implications, as well as the information that dominates daily mainline newscasts.

In this time, we have seen atrocities that go beyond description, performed in the name of a god that makes no provision for coexistence with any dissenters. Accept and convert or die, does not leave any options or room for discussion. Some deranged cleric interprets words from a manuscript that is suspect at best and demands that every person in the world adhere to their "current interpretation" or be marked for death. To this, add numerous cults and isms which hold unusual if not similar positions and chaos reigns.

All Satan, the Evil One, Lucifer, the Great Deceiver has to do is get out of the way. Confusion and chaos will take their toll and God, along with those who should or would be telling the truth to a dying world, get the blame. It's time for Christians to take control of the moments God has given us and be prepared to share the truth that lives within us:

The truth that motivates our true thoughts about the reality of eternity and who will enjoy it.

Blaming God for whatever we consider bad or inconvenient for us, is part of the *Natural Man Syndrome* inherited through our lineage position with and through the first man Adam. Even as Believers we deal with a natural inclination to blame someone else for our problems or un-desirable circumstances. As Believers we are to accept our positions and conditions of life. (*cf. Philippians 4.11*) We are to trust God with and for everything. (*cf. 1 Timothy 4.10*) We are to understand that God's ways are not necessarily our ways. (*cf. Isaiah 55.8*) We are to understand God can and often does use / has used unusual circumstances to accomplish His perfect will. (*cf. Exodus 3.1-22*) And all of this truth is available through faith in the completed work done for our benefit by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.