

## WHEN WE DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY

(Ps. 22:1-11)

### Introduction:

1. There are times in our lives when events occur that shake us to our core. When our hearts are broken and our soul cries out WHY???
2. Let us consider this morning when bad things happen to good people: the realities; the reasons; and finally the responses.

### Discussion:

#### **I. The Realities.**

- A. The reality of a physical existence necessitates physical cause and effect.
  1. Chaos would reign if physical consequences did not result from physical actions/decisions.
  2. Without consequences we would never be able to learn from our mistakes/bad choices.
- B. Remember the purpose of our physical existence.
  1. We are here to make the choice of where we will spend our eternity.
  2. God so often teaches us spiritual lessons by way of physical realities (childhood, marriage, old age).
  3. Christians ought not be overly distraught by sickness, injury, or even death because we ought to understand the big picture of existence = it is only by way of death (or the sudden change of 1 Cor. 15:51ff) that we can enter into the joy of our Lord and God.
  4. Remember the words of Paul to the church in Corinth (2 Cor. 5:1-8).
- C. Remember the truth of Christian hope as it relates to those who have lost loved ones.
  1. We are not grieve as those who have not God grieve (1 Thess. 4:13-18).
  2. Remember the great lesson from King David (2 Sam. 12:15-23).

#### **II. The Reasons.**

- A. All bad things ultimately can be laid at the feet of sin. Without the sin of Adam and Eve suffering and death would not have entered the world. But, lest we blame our progenitors too harshly, remember Rom. 3:23 = all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Sometimes bad things happen to good people because good people make bad decisions.
- B. Sometimes bad things happen to good people because we are engaged in a spiritual war (Eph. 6:10-17).
  1. Truly Satan walks about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour (1 Pet. 5:8).
  2. But God has armed us for all things (1 Pet. 5:6-9 {cp. Jas. 4:7-10}; 1 Cor. 10:13).
  3. And God has given us the information in order to understand the tragedy of when bad things happen to good people (the Books of Job, Habakkuk, and Revelation; Rom. 8:28).
- C. Sometimes bad things happen to good people because things just happen. I know that is not comforting, but sometimes tree limbs just break and accidents DO happen. While that may not be comforting, consider the next point.

#### **III. The Responses.**

- A. There are two main responses to those times when bad things happen to good people: we can either be separated from God and lose our faith or we can grow closer to God and stronger in our faith.
- B. Many people blame God for the bad times they encounter and grow angry with Him. They begin to think that God has somehow been unfaithful to them and respond by becoming unfaithful to Him.
- C. Many people understand the realities and reasons why bad things happen to good people and seek to aid God in His work to work good to those who love Him to those who are the called according to His purposes.

### Conclusion:

1. The Bible teaches us that God is good, loving, and just. He cares for us, He is concerned about us. Never forget our Lord standing at the stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:56).
2. It is always a tragedy when bad things happen to good people, but God's people must always understand and be comforted by God's word and His people. We sing further along. We must believe it and live it. Invitation.

**MORE ON “WHEN WE DON’T UNDERSTAND WHY”**

1. Consider Jer. 7.
2. Consider Ezek. 18.
3. Consider Amos 4:6-13.
4. Consider the life of Joseph.
5. Consider our Lord (Is. 53:10).
6. Knowing what we know, how will we respond to the tragedies of life?