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### WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE?

I would say that there is not one person that is a Christian that hasn't been asked "why do bad things happen to good people?" Most of us would find that a difficult question to answer. Yet, it is a question that needs to be dealt with.

Let's look at the life of Jesus, our example. Here is God in the flesh, living life as we do, and tempted like we are tempted. He never sinned, yet he was hated, mocked, spit upon, and crucified. The religious leaders detested him, because he saw them for who they were, without an excuse. His friends turned their backs on him and betrayed him. My friends, he was alone on that cross. He didn't have doctors or angels come and take the pain away.

We live in a sin-sick world because of Adam's original sin. Satan is seeking those who he can devour. He goes about "as a roaring lion". He is not a lion but deceives us into believing that he is stronger than God. There is a price to pay to walk with integrity in a world full of pestilence, violence, and sin.

People get sick and die that are faithful followers of Jesus. People are murdered and often tortured that are faithful followers of Jesus. God didn't want it this way, but he knew man would fail in the garden, and fail beyond the garden. Sin produces the violence and hatred that we see every day, yet we can be confident that Jesus is with us through the hard times and the good times. Yes, all that are in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

Many of us fail to understand the promises God has given, and it causes unwanted consequences in our lives. If Jesus is our example, we can expect the same things to happen to us that happened to him, and worse as we get closer to his return. One thing is for sure, and that is God will be with us through the good times and the hard times. We just have to trust him no matter what happens.

By the way, I read the end of the Book and we win. It may not all be played out in our lifetime, but that glorious day of restitution is coming! Be blessed.