

Overcoming Some Of Life's Problems # 1

Why Me Lord?

Introduction:

1. Job 14:1 - "Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble."
 - a. Life has its problems.
 - b. NASV & NKJV (footnote) has "full of turmoil".
2. Problems come in a variety of packages:
 - a. Sin is the first and greatest problem.
 - b. With self.
 - c. Family problems.
 - i. Marriage.
 - ii. Children.
 - d. Suffer sickness, disease, tragedy and death.
 - e. Financial problems.
 - f. Church problems:
 - i. Division.
 - ii. Indifference.
3. Tendency to ask, "Why me Lord?" when life deals us a bad hand.
 - a. "What have I done to deserve this?"
 - b. "Why did God let this happen?"
 - c. "Why am I being punished?"
4. Seldom do we ask these questions:
 - a. "Why not me?"
 - b. "Why me?" when receive good or are blessed.
5. Begin a serious of studies: *Overcoming Some Of Life's Problems*.
6. Look at question of "Why me Lord?" - each of the three words point to the three things we want to notice.
 - a. **Why** - Reasons for problems.
 - b. **Me** - The one who suffers.

- c. **Lord** - Blaming God.

I. WHY - *Reasons For Problems*

A. *Consequences of sin in the Beginning*

1. Death & disease come as a consequence of sin (Gen. 2:17; 3:1ff).
2. 1 Cor. 15:22, 55-56.
3. Reason we have sickness, aches, pains, suffering and death is that sin is in the world.

B. *Consequences of our own sin*

1. 1 Pet. 4:15-16 - suffer as a murderer, etc.
2. Prov. 13:15 - way of the transgressor is hard.
3. Reap what sow.
 - a. Gal. 6:7-9 - read what sow
 - b. Hosea 8:7 - sow to the wind and reap whirlwind.

C. *Consequences of others' sin*

1. Exo. 20:5-6 - consequences visited unto the third and fourth generation.
2. Matt. 5:32 - man unscripturally puts away his wife - she either cannot remarry or commits adultery when she does.
3. Ezra 10:44 - children suffered because of the parents.

D. *For Cause of Christ*

1. 1 Pet. 4:16- suffer as a Christian.
2. Heb. 13:5ff - persecution - called chastening of the Lord.
3. 2 Tim. 3:12 - all that are godly will suffer.

E. *Violation of natural laws*

1. Gravity - a good law, yet if one falls, can get hurt or possibly die.
2. Fire - good to cook and heat, yet burns our bodies or house.
3. Can't have **good** without there also being **bad**.
 - a. If possible to feel good - there must also be possibility of feeling bad.
 - b. If possible to have good marriage - possible to have a bad one.

F. *Natural phenomena*

1. Earthquake, tornado, hurricane, lightening, and floods are all natural occurrences.
2. Suffering caused by these are to any and all who are there.

G. *Free will of man*

1. If man can make choices, then he can make wrong choices, otherwise, we would be robots at the direction of God.
2. Choice means there are consequences.
3. Thus, possible to blunder and make mistakes or even sin.
4. Some choices bring grief and suffering.

II. ME - *The One Who Suffers*

A. *All men suffer*

1. 1 Pet. 4:15-16 - evil doers & Christians.
2. Rom. 8:22 - whole creation groans.

B. *Righteous suffer too*

1. Job -
 - a. Blameless and upright (Job. 1:8).
 - b. Yet suffered:
 - (1) Loss of property (Job 1:14, 16, 17).
 - (2) Loss of servants (Job 1:15, 18).
 - (3) Loss of children (Job 1:18).
 - (4) Loss of health (Job 2:1-10).
 - (5) Wife is no help (Job 2:9).
 - (6) Friends turn on him (Job 3-42:6).
2. David - Psa. 55:1-7
3. Lord himself
 - a. Rejected (John 1:11).
 - b. Beaten (Matt. 26:67).
 - c. Ridiculed (Matt. 26:68; 27:31).
 - d. Betrayed (Luke 22:47-53).
 - e. Crucified (Luke 23:26-49).
4. Paul
 - a. Persecuted (2 Cor. 11:22-33).
 - b. Thorn in the flesh (2 Cor. 12:7-10).
5. All Christians
 - a. Heb. 12:6 - scourges every son.
 - b. 2 Tim. 3:12 - all who live godly will suffer.
 - c. Rom. 8:16-18 - those who are children of God suffer with him.

III. LORD - *Blaming God*

A. *God doesn't want bad for man*

1. He wants all to be saved (1 Tim. 2:9; 2 Pet. 3:10).
2. Gave his only Son for us (John 3:16).

B. *Why do people blame God?*

1. **Equate problems with punishment for sin.**

- a. This is an old misconception.
 - (1) John 9:1 - disciples thought man was blind due to his sin or his parents.
 - (2) Acts 28:4 - native of the island that Paul must be a murderer since the snake bit him.
 - (3) Job 3:1ff - Job's friends thought he must have done wrong.
- b. Suffering is not due to own sin.
 - (1) Luke 13:1-5
 - (2) Job
 - (3) Heb. 4:15
 - (4) 1 Pet. 2:19ff - suffer wrongfully.

2. **Too high an opinion of own righteousness.**

- a. Seen in questions, "What did I do to deserve this...?"
- b. The "Why me?" questions - suggest that we think we have lived in such a way that we do deserve better.

3. **Selfish**

- a. Focus only on self.
- b. If others suffer - that's fine, but not me!

4. **Removes Guilt**

- a. As in dealing with others - if we can point a finger of blame, we feel less guilty ourselves.
- b. So, if I can blame God, we remove any of the guilt that I have had.

Conclusion:

1. All men do suffer - even righteous people.

2. Causes are varied.
3. But certainly, God cannot be blamed.

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