

ND WHY DO BAD EXPERIENCES HAPPEN TO ME? WHY IS LIFE SO UNFAIR? AND WHY DO BAD EXPERIENC



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- Stranded travelers sleep on the floor of one of Europe's busy airports due to flight cancellation resulting from Iceland's volcanic eruption earlier this week

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During the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, ID cards were death warrants for many Tutsi stopped at checkpoints.

— USHMM/Jerry Fowler

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- **Xinhua photo shows a monk being helped out of rubble.**

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## Four Questions About Unfairness

- WHAT: causes difficulty to exist in the world?
- WHY: does bad experiences happen?
- HOW: do I respond to trouble and life's hardships?
- WHO: do I turn to for help?

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## What causes difficulty to exist?

1. Choices of others
2. Choices we make ourselves
3. Acts of God

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## Why do bad experiences happen?

1. Input in; output out.
  - Proverbs 6:32-33
2. To display the work of God in our lives.
  - John 9:1-7
5. Current event is apart of a much larger picture.
  - Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28

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## Why do bad experiences happen?

4. Prove authenticity of our faith.
  - James 1: 2-3
5. God uses bad experiences to dial us into His unlimited power.
  - 2 Cor. 12:8-12; Phil. 1:2-3
6. Sometimes, there are no known reasons
  - Examples include: Job, Jeremiah, Lazarus, Jesus

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## What types of people do bad experiences produce?

- Wanderers—those who have become bitterly disillusioned by their pain and suffering.
- Wonderers—those who have become obsessed with the unanswerable questions.
- Worshippers—those who have become radically dependent on God and understand their need for Him.

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## How do I respond to trouble and life's hardships?

1. Don't get lost in the 'why' question.
2. Don't give up on your hope in God's love.
  - Job 19: 25-27; Psalm 34:1-4, 16
5. Don't give up in doing good, especially when things are bad.
  - Example of Joseph

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## How do I respond to trouble and life's hardships?

4. Choose to be stubborn; hang on to God, even when it hurts.
  - Example of Jacob
  - Example of the most unlikely all-star

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## Who do I turn to for help?

- Just a man like us; yet,
- He is the King of the Universe.

Ephesians 2:6-8: Who, being the very nature of God . . . made himself nothing . . . being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on the cross.

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## Romans 8:35-39:

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? . . . No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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