

I DON'T GET IT

Why do certain really desirable events only happen to certain people at certain times?

Why does God allow some to be born sick and deformed?

Why are the things God uses to help us so undesirable at times?

Why do some go through one type of suffering (like Job) and others seem to get blessed (like Jabez)?

Simply put, there are things that God not only allows, but does, that makes no sense i.e. - Ex 4:11 The Lord said to him, "Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? **IS IT NOT I, THE LORD?**

God acknowledges there are situations that make no sense

There is definite unfairness in this current world -Eccl 8:14 There is something else meaningless **that occurs on earth:** righteous men who get what the wicked deserve, and wicked men who get what the righteous deserve. This too, I say, **IS MEANINGLESS.**

Some get worse situations than others and we are not sure why - Luke 13:1-5 - Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. 2 Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? 3 **I TELL YOU, NO!** But unless you repent, you too will all perish. 4 Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them — do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5 **I TELL YOU, NO!** But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

Even God's will may SEEM unfair at times - Rom 9:10-13 - 10 Not only that, but Rebekah's children had one and the same father, our father Isaac. 11 Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad — **IN ORDER THAT GOD'S PURPOSE IN ELECTION MIGHT STAND: 12 NOT BY WORKS BUT BY HIM WHO CALLS** — she was told, "The older will serve the younger." 13 Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

How did it get so confusing? –

Wrong focus - 2 Cor 5:7 We live by faith, not by sight.

Wrong worship - Matt 15:8-9 - 8 "These people honor me with their lips, but their HEARTS ARE FAR FROM ME. 9 They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men."

We must stop trying to form God to fit us and receive the Sovereign God as HE is! - Rom 9:14-24 - 14 What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! 15 For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." 16 **IT DOES NOT, THEREFORE, DEPEND ON MAN'S DESIRE OR EFFORT, BUT ON GOD'S MERCY.** 17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." 18 Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden. 19 One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who resists his will?" 20 But **WHO ARE YOU, O MAN, TO TALK BACK TO GOD? "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'" 21 Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?** 22 **What if God**, choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath — prepared for destruction? 23 **What if he** did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory— 24 even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles?

The way to truly "GET IT" is to just TRUST HIM

Everything happens for a purpose but it only benefits those from one group - Rom 8:28 And we know that in **ALL THINGS** God works for the good of **THOSE WHO LOVE HIM**, who have been called **ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.**

We have a choice how we let life affect us -John 14:1 - "**DO NOT LET** your hearts be troubled. **Trust in God;** trust also in me.

Life is not for us to get, it's for us to live for HIM no matter the situation - 1 Cor 7:21-24 - 21 Were you a slave when you were called? **DON'T LET IT TROUBLE YOU** — although if you can gain your freedom, do so. 22 For he who was a slave when he was called by the Lord is the Lord's freedman; similarly, he who was a free man when he was called is Christ's slave. 23 **YOU WERE BOUGHT AT A PRICE; do not become slaves of men.** 24 Brothers, **EACH MAN, AS RESPONSIBLE TO GOD,** should remain in the situation God called him to.

Live ALLOWING GOD to work for the only good purpose - Phil 2:12-13 - 12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for **IT IS GOD WHO WORKS** in you to will and to act according to **HIS GOOD PURPOSE.**

Put every thought, understanding, instruction... to God - Prov 3:5-7 - 5 **TRUST IN THE LORD** with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and **HE** will make your paths straight. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.

- Trust replaces understanding
- Reverence replaces human wisdom