

WHY BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO NOT SO GOOD PEOPLE - Part VII

Reference: **miscellaneous Scripture**

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ONE - Sometimes something bad happens as a direct result from a **wrong action** or **wrong inaction** on our part. These wrong actions and wrong inactions exist as either mistakes or as sins.

TWO - Sometimes something bad happens to convince us to **trust** God.

THREE - Sometimes something bad happens to enable us to better **comfort** someone else.

FOUR - Sometimes something bad happens to remind us of our **eternal reward** in heaven.

FIVE - Sometimes something bad happens so that God is **glorified** in and through that situation.

SIX - Sometimes something bad happens to act as the agent God uses to conform us to **resemble** His Son, Jesus.

SEVEN - Sometimes something bad happens to present us unusual opportunities to **evangelize** and to **encourage** others to do the same.

EIGHT- Sometimes something bad happens to reveal to us the true nature of a **friendship**.

NINE - Sometimes something bad happens to _____ our faith.

God sees our existence on this earth as three things:

- A _____ assignment
- A _____
- A _____

God uses trouble to test His creatures. He tests our character. He tests our commitment to Him. He tests our obedience. **He tests our faith.**

Definition: Faith means “to _____ in; to believe in; to depend on; to put our _____ in.”

Genuine active faith consists of two active components:

_____ and _____.

Intellectual assent means that in our minds we are **convinced** something is true or that something isn't true. **Willful action** is exercising our volition and will and **acting** on what our intellect has determined to be true or not true.

The basic difference between someone's faith and someone else's faith is the difference in the _____ of each person's faith.
Reference: **James 1:1-3** (see screen).

IMPORTANT - God doesn't test us for His benefit, but He tests us for _____ benefit.

Three categories of faith a Christian might have:

One is _____ faith – this is faith we inherit from someone else, sometimes from succeeding generations.

Two is _____ faith – faith we receive from other resources.

Three is _____ faith - faith we have that has been tried and tested through troubles and problems and tragedies and, in the end, God proves Himself to be true.

Reference: **II Chronicles 32:27-31** (see screen)

Truth: Problems don't just help **make** us what we are; but, problems also _____ us just what we are. Problems can both **develop** character, and problems can _____ someone's character.

Read **James 1:2-3** again.

Remember, God has either sent or permitted this problem so that we might learn _____.

Definition: The word for "patience" in the original language might better be translated as "endurance, _____ and steadfastness."

God doesn't want us to rejoice **for** our problems; but, He told us to rejoice **in** our problems.

The word "count" means "to consider _____ or to think ahead."

Reference: **Psalms 34:1** (see screen)

Three choices someone has in facing a crisis:

- refusing to _____ it, and that's the same as denial
- accepting it, but just _____ with it and that's toleration
- accepting it, and attempting to _____ from it, and we start benefiting from a crisis at the moment we choose to rejoice