

Why do Bad Things Sometimes Happen to Good People?

· If God is good and powerful why is there evil and suffering?

· We like to think that life is fair

· The psalms reflect people questioning God about the unfairness of life

· Most of us have experienced something we think is unfair

Some observations:

1. No one can provide a totally satisfactory answer to the existence of evil on such a grand scale
2. Only God can see the end from the beginning
3. God is good and God is love
4. That when Jesus entered the world he suffered too
5. God did not answer the 'why' question of Jesus
6. God is not threatened by our questions
7. In any discussion adequate account must be made of the resurrection and of heaven

The book of Job Job 1:1 - 12

· Job is a righteous man who is blessed by God

· God gives Satan permission to cause Job to suffer

· Job loses everything - except his life

· He presents his case to God

· God responds chap 38

· Job acknowledges God's wisdom and power

Main themes of book

- Suffering is not necessarily the result of sin
- God does not answer Job's questions - he simply calls him to keep trusting
- Our faith grows when we can trust God in times of suffering
- It is all about God's grace
- Instead of addressing 'why' God asks Job 'who'.