

Biblical Counseling Center introduces eCounselor's Weekly guide, to encourage counselors and all believers in discipleship and daily growth.

"Give Me One Good Reason Why?"

By Dr. Ronald A. Allchin, Sr.

"Just give me one good reason why!" Those words angrily roared from the mouth of a brother who had just gone through several intensely painful situations. He had trusted Christ earlier in his life, a life that was impressively uneventful. It seemed as if God had smiled on him to this point and now he was struggling, searching for the reasons for the pain. "Give me one good reason why?"



Two close people had died unexpectedly. His stock portfolio took a dive. His daughter's marriage was in the dumpster. All the stress and doubts were putting a strain on his marriage as well. What was God trying to do? He believed in a sovereign God, but to this season in his life had never had to put his faith to the test.

How would you have answered this man? Are you ready to give three good reasons why terrible things sometimes happen to God's children? Below are reason that may not give us the specific answer to this specific trial, but gives us what God wants to accomplish in and through this trial.

First we find in 2 Corinthians 2:3-7:

– that **"the God of all comfort...comforts us in all our tribulations so that we may be able to comfort others...with the same comfort which we are comforted of God."** God allows difficult times in our lives so that He or a brother can comfort, encourage and guide us through suffering. If you are experiencing a trial, don't run from it. God has a purpose for

it. He then wants you to look for someone that you can comfort through a similar trial just as you were comforted. God is preparing you to help others.

A second reason for "Why?" is found in the James 1:2-4:

"Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing this that the testing of your faith produces patience, maturity and completeness..." God wants mature and complete children. He desires to see our character strengthened and He matures us in and through trials. So trials aren't enemies, they are character builders. If you want to grow in character don't look at trials as enemies but as opportunities to mature.

Romans 8:28-29 gives us a third reason for "Why?":

"We know that all things work together for the good to those who love God...to conform them to the image of His Son." Even the difficult situations in life have a glorious God-determined purpose, and if we respond to it biblically, we come out looking more like Jesus. Don't get angry at the situation and miss God's purposes for it!

› Questions to ask yourself for each of these reasons:

1. Do I want to miss out on the opportunity to comfort others?
2. What part of my character does God want to mature in me through this trial?
3. How would Jesus want me to respond so that I can look more like Him?

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