

God Brings Calamity

"When ye are come into the land of Canaan, which I give to you for a possession, and I put the plague of leprosy in a house of the land of your possession..." Leviticus 14:34

Many, if not most Christians, after reading this conclude that God did not plague the home with leprosy; either the devil did it, God allowed it but did not actually do it, or come up with some other explanation; they cannot conceive of a good God doing such things.

Earlier, God said to Moses, "...Who hath made man's mouth? Or who maketh a man dumb, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, Jehovah?"¹ Why does God do this? Most of the time He never tells us. Nor can I find evidence that He will enlighten His people on the "whys" of what He does after we arrive in eternity.

If the book of Job teaches anything, it teaches that you cannot conclude that when calamity befalls a person, it is because he sinned. God said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil? He still holds fast his integrity, although you moved me against him, to destroy him without cause."² God destroyed Job for no apparent reason. The book ends with Job making his peace with God destroying him, even though God never explains to Job (or the reader) why He did it.

It is equally true, however, that God can strike you with calamity when you sin – not that He does each time you sin – but the fact that He can, and sometimes does, should terrify you over the thought of violating His will.

¹ Exodus 4:11 ² Job 2:3