

Why Do People Blame God?

Introduction

1. In this morning's lesson we want to examine several reasons why people blame God for things that happen in their lives and the lives of others.
2. The objective of this lesson is to understand why people blame God and the aim of this lesson is to encourage everyone to praise instead of blaming God.
3. One of the greatest Bible examples of one who suffered great calamity in his life is that of Job.
Job 10:1-13
4. Some considerations from our text:
 - A. Job is a righteous man, but Satan doesn't like that.
 - B. So Satan challenges God to see if he can get Job to curse God.
 - C. **God allows Satan to do whatever he desires** to try to get Job to curse God.
 - D. Job's friends come to console Job, but instead **say that God has punished him**.
 - E. While Job never says that he has sinned, he does attribute his condition to God instead of Satan (Job 30:18-25).
 - G. He lost sight that it was really Satan bringing all of this calamity upon him – not God.

5. **What about today?**
 - A. **Are men any different today?**
 - B. **When trouble comes, who do men usually blame first? God.**
 - C. **Why is this?**
6. **People put the blame on God because.....**

They Don't Know There Is Someone Else to Blame

1. **Satan is and always has been man's adversary. The word "Satan" means adversary.**
2. **Consider what Jesus said of Satan in John 8:44:**

John 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

3. **We must resist him because he is really out there on the prowl to try to devour us!**

1 Peter 5:8-9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

4. **Here is an absolute Bible fact: Satan is ultimately responsible for all of the evil that is in this world, not God!**

People Don't Take Responsibility

1. Unfortunately, most people don't take responsibility for the creation of their own problems in life.
2. Abortion, divorce, euthanasia, murder, and theft all have one thing in common. These are ways in which people try to escape the responsibility they have for their **OWN** situation.
3. The truth is – that we are each responsible for the quality of our own life.

Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, that he will also reap**. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

4. **We can take responsibility for our own problems and recognize that we often get ourselves into hurtful situations – or we can deny it and blame God!**

God Is an Easy Target

1. It seems that when we find ourselves in difficulties, we want to blame the one who's in charge.
2. God is in charge of everything, so ultimately, we reason, He's to blame.
3. Moreover, God won't argue with us, at least, not immediately.
4. Those who think in this manner forget about God's longsuffering.
2 Peter 3:9-12
6. It is true that God won't answer us immediately, but one day He will answer and we will have to give an account for all of our actions.
Acts 17:30-31

Some Don't Believe in Free-will, So God Is to Blame

1. Most Calvinists believe that God has specifically determined everything.
2. For them, God is responsible for all of men's choices.
3. The Bible truth is – that men have the freedom to choose between right and wrong.

Deuteronomy 30:19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore **choose life**, that both you and your descendants may live;

Joshua 24:15 “....choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...”

Matthew 7:13-14

Many Believe That God must Fix Their Problems

1. **People reason that since God hasn't fixed their problems, then He must not want to – and so they blame God.**
2. **This is based upon a false understanding of the promise Jesus gave to the apostles in John 16:23 and similar passages:**

John 16:23 And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.

3. **But these fail to realize that God hasn't given us a blank check.**

James 4:3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, **that you may spend it on your pleasures.**

4. **John clarifies this in 1 John 5:14:**

1 John 5:14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything **according to His will**, He hears us.

5. **God never promised to give us anything and everything that our heart desired.**
6. **God never even promised to deliver us from all troublesome situations.**
7. **Paul asked three times to have his thorn in the flesh removed, but God said His grace was sufficient.**

2 Corinthians 12:7-9

God Is Responsible for Everything

1. **Since God created everything, many reason that He then is responsible for everything – including bad things that happen.**
 - A. **God did create everything that is in existence (Genesis 1:1).**
2. **But someone else modified some of those things for evil purposes. And that someone is Satan!**
3. **Everything that God created was good. See Genesis 1:1-25.**
4. **Even man was created good and sinless, but man sinned and ruined that which God created.**
 - A. **Man sinned because he was influenced by Satan – not God!**
5. **God is responsible for all good that is in the world.**

James 1:17 **Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above**, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

6. **God is NOT responsible for evil.**
7. **Man is responsible for his own behavior – BUT doesn't want to take responsibility for his bad behavior.**
Romans 2:6-11

People Make Wrong Assumptions

1. **Most people assume that “bad things” don’t happen for a good purpose.**
 - A. **When bad things happen to us, we automatically consider it punishment.**
2. **But the fact of the matter is that not all “bad things” are inherently bad.**
 - A. **Consider certain medical procedures to eliminate disease in the body.**
 - B. **Consider the athlete that undergoes tremendous physical stress to improve his performance.**
3. **Jesus told his disciples to rejoice when they are persecuted.**

Matthew 5:11-12 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, **for great is your reward in heaven**, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

- A. **Until we face a certain amount of persecution, we really won’t know how strong and how faithful we really are.**

4. **Notice what the apostle Paul stated in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10:**

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.**

People Forget to Praise God

1. When people forget to praise God, then they criticize Him.
2. God is never worthy of criticism. He is only worthy of praise.
3. In Job 35:9-15 Elihu says that no one praises God when they ought.

Psalms 18:3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.

Revelation 4:11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

Conclusion

- Why do people blame God? Because...
 1. They don't know there is someone else to blame.
 2. They don't want to take responsibility for creating their own problems.
 3. God is an easy target.
 4. Some don't believe in free-will, so God is responsible.
 5. Many believe that God must fix their problems.
 6. Since God created everything He is responsible for everything.
 7. People assume that "bad things" don't happen for a good purpose.
 8. People forget to praise God.

