

## *The Two Most Asked Questions of a Child of God*

Children can ask a lot of questions. Seems they pass through a certain age where all their speech is one big question. "Daddy, what is this?" "Mama, where are we going?" "Can I have it?"

Through the ages God's children have also asked a lot of questions. Two questions stand out. Following, I believe, are the two most asked questions of God's children throughout the ages. I sure have asked these two questions many times...

### **Question 1: Why do good people have problems, trouble?**

Many new converts may become bewildered. Seasoned converts may become bewildered as well. After we are saved, why isn't everything a bed of roses? I have questioned God more than once when I or a loved one who serves God is facing trials. Why God, is this happening?

Problems come in many forms...health, financial, family, employment. Take a look at our friend Gideon in Judges 6:11-14. He hid behind the winepress to thresh wheat in order to hide from the enemy who was stealing the people's wheat. He was a smart boy for they would never think to look for wheat the winepress! Gideon questioned God for the trouble the people were having. Read Judges 6:11-14. Gideon asked the angel of the Lord, in my own words, "if God is for us why are we having trouble?" Good question!

Why do good people have trouble?

- To strengthen our faith  
I Peter 1:7
- To fulfill the plan of God  
Joseph Gen 45:7
- To manifest God's glory  
Blind boy John 9  
Lazarus John 11:4
- We live in a sinful body in a sinful world  
Job 14:1

### **Question 2: Why do bad people get by?**

Don't you wish every outlaw got what they had coming? I have been waiting on some to "get what they've got coming" for years!

If I were God the average life-span of a child abuser would be 5 minutes after the crime. I would want at least 5 minutes to torture them before they died. Yet, some never get caught and never spend a day behind bars. Dope dealers are driving our highways this minute in fine cars ruining lives. Later tonight they will sleep in a fine home. How can this be?

The Psalmist was bothered by the prosperity of the wicked. I sometimes am as well. Read Psalms 37 and 73 and observe the perplexed heart of the Psalmist as he beheld the prosperity of the wicked. These two Psalms

show us that it is certainly not uncommon for good people to question the prosperity of the wicked.

What is the answer to this question- "Why do bad people seem to get by?" There is only one answer to this question that I can discern from the Word of God...

-Their payday, their judgment, their recompense does not necessarily come in this life. It will come, rest assured, but not necessarily in this life.

Let us visit a couple of great truths from the Word:

1) Who is in charge of judgment?

Rest assured, there is ONE and one only in charge of judgment whether it be the judgment of the sinner or saint and that is God. *Do you reckon we could ever allow such a great truth to sink in?* I wish God would let me be God for just one day! But He will not nor ever will. God is in sole charge of judgment. Remember that the next time you are inclined to "put them under the jail." Romans 14:4 tell us "Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth..."

2) Who sets the timetable for judgment?

A second great truth is God has his own timetable in matters of judgment. Listen to Eccl 8:11 "*Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set on them to do evil.*" As stated above, I would take the life of a child-abuser 5 minutes after the crime. Yet, we find in the Word of God the judgment of the wicked is not even promised in this life. Saints pay for their unrepented sins in this life.

Read Revelation 20:12-15. This scripture describes the Great White Throne Judgment, that is, the judgment of the sinner. Did you note the books that were opened? These books contain the sinful deeds of the sinner committed in his lifetime. There are no such books for the sins of the saints at their judgment. God judges the sinner from these books of sinful deeds and then administers recompense. So, bad people may seem to and do get by "in this life" but not in eternity.

*"Oh God, may these few words from thy vast Word have imparted some degree of understanding to the reader for which to Thee be the Glory. Amen."*

*Brother Roy Hogan*