

1.

There are three things that influence events upon earth. The first is the Will of God. 2 Samuel 22:31 tells us, *'As for God, His way is perfect.'* The reason *why* His way is so perfect, is because He never does anything without having a reason for doing it.

He doesn't have a single blade of grass, growing on a rock, in the middle of the wilderness, without having a purpose for *that* particular blade of grass, to be growing on *that* particular rock, on *that* particular spot. There's a reason *why* it's there. It's part of the Will of God, and within the Will of God everything is in harmony, and therefore perfect. Nothing goes wrong, and there is no sickness, sorrow, suffering, or death, just as it is in Heaven.

The second thing that influences events upon the earth is Free-will. The Lord wanted someone who would love Him, simply because they chose to, with no strings attached. No reward if they did, or punishment if they didn't.

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Someone who would have the freedom to choose to live their lives *without* Him, yet could choose instead, to *want* to know Him, because they *could*.

So, when God created us, He didn't put us in a cage, bind our hands, or shackle our feet. He gave us Free-will, and let us go free, completely free. We have unhampered, unrestrained freedom of choice.

I could choose to become a doctor, and save hundreds of lives, and the Lord would not stop me from doing that. I could also choose to become a serial killer, and murder a hundred people, and the Lord would not stop me from doing that either, because, having Free-will allows me to *make* that choice.

Having Free-will allows us to make choices that take us outside the Will of God. I can make a choice that puts me in the wrong place, at the wrong time, and be killed by a drunk driver, or a falling rock, or even a serial-killer. I can

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also catch a disease from a stranger, that will eventually kill me.

Accidents happen, disasters happen, and people die painful, horrific deaths every day, not because it is the Will of God, but because having Free-will puts us at the mercy of *our* wrong choices, and the bad choices of *others*.

The third thing that influences events on earth is Satan. There is evil upon the earth, because there is an evil one, who influences people to do the most monstrously savage things. Satan was an Archangel, who wanted to be worshipped *'as God.'* He still wants to be worshipped by all, so he influences people to do things that have him proclaimed *'as God,'* or praised.

The Lord said, *'The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.'* (John 10:10). That's what Satan does, he influences people to do evil, because it makes him look like the 'top dog.' When some moron straps a bomb to themselves, and detonates it in a public place,

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murdering innocent people, that person was influenced by the evil one. They also had to choose to do the act, so it makes them completely responsible for it.

But there is no love lost between Satan and his pawns. When he has finished with them, he abandons them to their fate, which will be annihilation after the Judgement.

And Free-will doesn't come cheap, it comes with accountability for our actions, and everyone will answer for the choices they've made.

Because Adam and Eve sinned, and were put out of Eden, we were all born separated from God, and outside His protection. But, Free-will gives us the choice to be reconciled back to Him, and have the intimate relationship Adam had with Him.

*'God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself.'* (2 Corinthians 5:19.) When we are reconciled with Him, and surrender our lives to Him, we become His possession, and He will jealously guard and protect us.

5.

God does nothing except in answer to prayer, and prayer changes things, so, He can avert a coming calamity through our prayers. But the safest place to be, calamity or not, is in His care, because He will never leave you, nor forsake you, once you take hold of His hand.

For more information, please feel free to contact:

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Short Answer Series #10

*Why*  
*does God allow*  
***Disasters***  
*and*  
***Suffering?***

