

***The Problem of Evil part 3: The Prepper's Guide to Tragedy***      Luke 13:1-9    04.28.13

**Main Idea:** “Pain is God’s megaphone to get our attention” – C.S. Lewis

How to prepare for when tragedy strikes:

1) Understand that the Bible teaches tragedies \_\_\_\_\_ come in a sinful, fallen world – Luke 13:1,4

- Moral evil: Pilate’s slaughter of innocent people – 13:3

“Half the harm in this world is due to people who want to feel important” – T.S. Eliot

- Natural evil: Collapse of a tower – 13:4

2) Resist the urge to give the “\_\_\_\_\_” – 13:2, 4

- Most people in Jesus’ day thought that there was a direct correlation between extraordinary suffering and extraordinary sin. Most thought if you were suffering then God was specifically judging you for ‘super’ sin – 13:2,4

- Jesus destroys this idea: you’re all guilty – 13:2,4

*Q: Is there a proper way to respond to tragedy?*

3) Tragedy should \_\_\_\_\_ us to Jesus Christ, the Savior – 13:3,5

- Jesus does not deny human sin; He affirms it – 13:3,5

- For the unbeliever: Tragedy is evidence of God’s mercy in giving you time to repent, be saved, and live for Him – 13:3,5-8

- For the believer: Tragedy is evidence of God’s mercy in giving you time to warn unbelievers that time is short – 13:3,5-8

- Tragedy should not cause us to wonder why so many people died but rather, why the rest of us are still alive.

- When loved ones & friends die “early” we should thank God for the time that we had with them, not be bitter over the time we think we deserved.

*Q: Why doesn’t God just destroy evil?*

A: He will but we must realize that destruction of evil does not exempt us. God has chosen to give the world time to repent. Seek His mercy during this window of opportunity before it closes.

Key: will/why/point

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