The Book of Hebrews

Jesus is The Better Choice

Hebrews 12:4-13

Why do bad things happen to good people?

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Hebrews 12:4-11

"You have not yet resisted to point of shedding blood in your striving against sin; and you have forgotten the exhortation that has been addressed to you as sons, 'My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor faint when you are reproved by Him; for those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives.' It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness."

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What is meant by “Discipline”?

- Methods used by a Father to train his child

- God’s purposes for discipline
  - Correction
  - Prevention
  - Education
  - Anticipation

How should Christians view trials (v. 4-11)?

- “Do not regard lightly, the discipline of the Lord …” (v. 5)
- “Nor faint when you are reproved by Him …” (v. 5)
- “It is for discipline that you endure …” (v. 7)
  - His discipline is out of love (v. 6, 7, 8)
  - His discipline is perfect (v. 9, 10)
- “It yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness …” (v. 11)
  - Gives us fullness of life (v. 9)
  - Makes us holy (v. 10)

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No compromise (v. 12-13)

“Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed. ”

- Encourage yourself that God means your discipline for good
- Compromise will lead to stumbling and falling

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