

CouplesInBloom.com – If God Seems Evil

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When Lucifer tried to ascend above God, God evicted him from Heaven to earth for a while, to be followed by permanent suffering in Hell ⇒ Isaiah 14:12-15. We currently live in the temporary part of eternity called “time”, which has the following transitions:

- Lucifer (Satan) and the fallen angels (demons) are temporarily on earth promoting sin, being between their past residence in Heaven and future permanent residence in Hell.
- Christians are born and temporarily reside on earth, interact with evil on earth, have permanent access to God and angels, and have future permanent residence in Heaven.

Satan is still on God’s payroll, so to speak. **Understanding this helps us** know how to think and live. Notice that God did **NOT** send Satan to Hell right away, but to earth for a while first to do God’s will, even if unknowingly ⇒ Romans 8:28. Satan is evil and promotes evil, but can do nothing without getting God’s approval ⇒ Lamentations 3:37.

Why did God send Satan here? One reason is to teach people responsibility, the law of sowing and reaping. Another is to help us learn and appreciate God’s love. These and other experiences are necessary for the huge process of preparing creatures with a free will and a sinful nature for eternal life. Spiritual transition, the biggest part, requires redemption by Jesus Christ and sanctification by having relationship with the Holy Spirit.

What does God let Satan do here? Satan accuses Christians ⇒ Revelation 12:10 and uses his audience with God to do it ⇒ Job 1:6-2:7 and prompts people directly ⇒ Job 2:9. Satan tries to deceive people ⇒ Revelation 20:7-8, but whoever sincerely cries out to God and remains faithful will be saved and not deceived ⇒ Joel 2:32; Revelation 22:17.

God gave Christians a responsibility to resist Satan ⇒ James 4:7. This is called spiritual warfare. Christians who reject this responsibility may also adopt an “everything is God’s will” way of thinking, perhaps to excuse laziness. God has a good, pleasing and perfect will ⇒ Romans 12:2 yet allows events that are **NOT** part of it ⇒ Jeremiah 19:5. God calls Christians to a fight of faith ⇒ 1 Timothy 6:12 and to change the landscape of life by exercising their faith in Him instead of being victimized by life ⇒ Matthew 21:21.

Christians must be careful not to blame God when difficulties come ⇒ Job 1:22, especially when they ask Him for help and He does **NOT** do what they request. Knowing that God is all-powerful ⇒ Luke 1:37 does **NOT** mean we do all the asking and God does all the answering. **God can seem evil if we have this non-Biblical entitlement mindset.** *Satan will suggest anger towards God* for allowing the pain and not providing any relief.

What does this mean for marriage? Realize that we have God-given responsibility to manage evil in this life. If our spouse seems to be doing something evil, our goal needs to be God’s righteousness and not Satan’s blaming. **Example:** your spouse told you they would do a certain task by today... but didn’t. Will you immediately complain about it, *or* will you gather information about the whole situation and then decide what to do next? What would you want your spouse to do if **you** were the one who didn’t get it done?

Blaming is evil; **helping** is Godly. **Relationship** brings revelation. **Communicate**, do not ex-communicate. Live so that **evil works for good!** ⇒ Romans 8:28. ♥ Loren Falzone