

## Episode #616 - The Why Question 1: In the Beginning

I. One of the most difficult questions we must ask ourselves regarding God, life, and the world is the “why” question. We who believe that there is a God Who is all-good and all-loving and Who made the world must answer why then this world is such a terrible place and in such a mess.

II. The “Why” Question Introduced.

- A. Why does God allow evil in the world?
  - 1. Is there really a God?
  - 2. Is God harsh, cruel, or uncaring?
- B. Why do bad things happen to good people and vice versa?
- C. Why is there so much pain and suffering in the world?
- D. Why did God even create us?
- E. Why doesn't God rescue us from all the bad things that happen to us?

III. The “Why” Question Answered: We Must Start at the Beginning.

IV. The original sin of Adam and Isha.

- A. Genesis 2:7. God creates Adam (man.) The Likeness of God, Genesis 1:26.
- B. Genesis 2:15. God provides for the needs of man.
- C. Genesis 2:16-17. God gives man a choice.
  - 1. The knowledge of good and evil = good and calamity.
  - 2. Adam had no experience with any disaster in his life.
  - 3. It is impossible to please God without faith. Hebrews 11:6. This tree gave Adam the ability to show faith and please God.
- D. Genesis 2:18. God notices something “not good.”
  - 1. As far as we can tell, Adam was perfectly satisfied.
  - 2. Marriage was God's idea.
  - 3. God makes a partner for Adam out of his “side.” Verse 21.
- E. Genesis 2:23. Adam meets his new partner.
  - 1. “Woman” is actually a name, “Isha.”
  - 2. He knew Isha was from him because he saw himself in her.
- F. Genesis 3:1. A new player enters the scene—the serpent. Rev. 12:9. Ezekiel 28:14.
  - 1. Nachash=the Shining One or Hissing One. Not a snake?
  - 2. He addresses Isha. Does he see a weakness in her?
  - 3. He questions God's words.
- G. Genesis 3:2-3. Isha fails by adding to God's words and weakening the punishment.
- H. Genesis 3:4-5. Satan denies God's words are true.
- I. Genesis 3:6. Adam and Eve fall.
  - 1. I Timothy 2:14. Isha believed the serpent. She did not trust God's justice.
  - 2. Adam was not deceived.
    - a. Remember, God had given Isha to Adam as a gift.
    - b. If he was not fooled, he knew Isha was going to die.
    - c. Had God given him a faulty gift? He must have felt cheated.
    - d. Adam tried to commit suicide. He did not trust God's grace.
- J. Genesis 3:8-19. God steps in.
  - 1. Genesis 3:8. God seeks Adam out. This was His grace. They fear.
  - 2. Genesis 3:9-11. God brings Adam to his guilt.
  - 3. Genesis 3:12. Adam blames Isha, and does not take responsibility.

4. Genesis 3:13. Isha blames the serpent.

5. Genesis 3:14-15. The determination of God. He offers them hope.

K. Genesis 3:15-16,20. Adam believes God, and calls Isha Eve: "Lifespring."

L. Genesis 3:21. God clothes them-the shedding of blood-based on Adam's faith.

V. Conclusion: The first part of our answer: God did not make us to experience evil, but Adam chose pain and heartache. God sought to spare us from these, as any good parent would. We are in the mess we are in because of Adam's choice.