

Why do bad things happen in the world?

Answers to Questions Concerning the Restored Gospel from HisWorkmanship.net

Answer prepared by:

Elder Dwight Burford

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Question: [Why do bad things happen in the world?](#)

Answer(s)

The possibility for both good and evil to exist in this world is the result of God's unique ability and choice to create stewards who actually have the capacity to be stewards over all that He chooses to entrust into their care. God has created humans as well as angels to hold stewardship responsibilities before Him (cf. Romans 8:19-23).

As stewards, all of us are able to honor and conform to God's will or to defy God and rebel against His will.

The result or outcome of this investment of stewardship by God in humanity as well as angels is evidenced in the world about us. That is, all that is happening around us comes not only from God but also from all stewards He has assigned various stewardships pertaining to this world. Consequently, not everything that occurs in this world, or in heaven for that matter, occurs according to God's will or plan. Rather, much of what we have to deal with in this life is the result of the actions and decisions of other stewards exercising their stewardship (agency), whether in accordance to His will or in defiance of His will.

Being created a steward does not mean we are free to do whatsoever we please without being held accountable for our decisions and actions. God fully intends to hold each steward accountable for whatsoever he or she is to manage according to their God-given stewardships (I Corinthians 3:12-4:5, II Corinthians 5:10, Matthew 25, etc.). Until that day in which He will bring everyone before Him to give an accounting of their stewardship(s), God ensures that each of us have sufficient space and time to exercise our stewardships; this includes the love of our hearts (cf. Matthew 22:34-39 with II Thessalonians 2:9-12).

While God is capable of intervening in every aspect of our lives, He resists doing so. The reason? He is intent on maintaining the stewardship He gives each one of us. If He does intervene, He does so only according to His wisdom and His plan for His creation. Remember, He does nothing expect it is for the benefit of the world.

*For behold, my beloved brethren, I say unto you
that the Lord God worketh not in darkness;
He doeth not anything,*

*save it be for the benefit of the world,
For He loveth the world, even that He layeth down
His own life that He may draw all men unto Him.*

II Nephi 11:95,96

God is at work in and through all things. While Satan and his servants are intent to bring about evil (cf. Genesis 50:20 & Job 2:3 with Revelation 2:10), God is able to use the expressions and impacts of their stewardships on others for both His immediate purposes as well as for the final intent unto which He has created all things (Romans 8:28). For this is His *work and glory, to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man* (D&C 22:23b). More on this topic is provided in the following articles:

- [To What Extent Are Our Lives Orchestrated?](#)
- Agency: God's Precious Gift of Stewardship Over Our Eternal Souls

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