

# **“Why Do Bad Things Happen? – Part 2”**

## **Sermon Series “God Questions: Real Questions – Authentic Faith”**

### **February 19, 2012**

#### **Genesis 2:4-7**

<sup>4</sup>These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, <sup>5</sup>when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; <sup>6</sup>but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— <sup>7</sup>then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

**Genesis 2:15-17** The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

#### **1. We are created with three elements (Body, Soul and Spirit)**

**a. Body is our structure. Plants and animals also have bodies.**

**b. Soul is our center of willing and emotion. Animals also have souls.**

Genesis 1:24 “Let the earth bring forth “living creatures” (souls) of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind”

**c. Spirit is what allows us to connect with God. Only humans have a spirit.**

I Thessalonians 5:23 May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **2. We do bad things because we want to be our own God.**

# **“Why Do Bad Things Happen? Part -2**

## **Sermon Reflection Questions – February 19, 2012**

### **Sermon Series “God Questions: Real Questions – Authentic Faith”**

Last week we began looking at the question of why bad things happen. We saw that one of the reasons is that we live in a fallen world. God created the world perfectly and will at the end of times create a new heaven and a new earth that will mirror His original intention in creation. But because of the fall of man the world also has experienced consequences such as diseases and natural disasters. Another element, however, of why bad things happen is because people themselves have become corrupt by the fall and lead sinful lives that affect themselves and the world around them.

1. What bad things do you see in the world that occurs because of human behavior?
  
2. In the first point on the sermon we talked about the three parts of our being: our bodies, our souls and our spirits. The first is our bodies; what were our bodies like before the fall? What happened to our bodies after the fall? (See Genesis 2:15-17)
  
3. The second aspect to our being is our souls. Our souls are the ways in which we think, will, feel, and the way we relate to one another. Describe what our souls were like after the fall. (See Genesis 3:11-12 as an example)
  
4. The third aspect to our being is our spirit. Our spirit is what allows us to have a relationship with God. Describe what our relationship with God was like before the fall and then after the fall. (See Genesis 3:23-24)
  
5. I said that the essence of sin is that we want to be our own God; see Genesis 3:4-7. How was the nature of the first sin a desire of Adam and Eve to be their own God?
  
6. If you think about the evil or bad things that are done by humanity, how can all of it be traced back to a fundamental issue of wanting to be the God of our lives?
  
7. People will sometimes wonder why God wouldn't just get rid of those who do these bad things. Why do you think? (Read Psalm 73 for an example)