

# Why does God allow bad things to happen to innocent people?

## I. Examples: Exhibit A – Actions of others

A. Abel – **Gen. 4:2-12**

B. Jonathan – **I Sam. 23:15-18, I Sam. 28:4-20**

C. Babies of the Hebrews – **Ex. 1:22**

D. Babies of Bethlehem – **Matt. 2:16-18**

E. Uriah (and others) – **2 Sam. 11:16-25**

F. Naboth – **I Kings 21:1-13**

G. Soldiers killed at AI – **Josh. 7:1-5**

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## III. Answers: Actions of others

1. **God will not interfere with the free will of man to choose right or wrong, good or evil**  
– **Lev. 26, (I Tim. 2:3-4, Acts 17:30, II Pet. 3:9, Ezek. 33:11); Gen. 50:20**
  - A. **Therefore the innocent will always suffer for the choices, and often the consequences, of those who do evil**
  - B. **What would we have God do? Stop people from doing anything bad, ever?**

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## II. Examples: Exhibit B – Natural Causes

- A. Elisha – 2 Kings 13:14
- B. Epaphroditus – Phil. 2:25-30
- C. Trophimus – 2 Tim. 4:20
- D. Job – Job 2:4-10

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## II. Answers: Natural Causes

2. God alone is wise – He allows situations to happen, not for evil but for good – But we must remain faithful through the temptations that may come from the situations in which we find ourselves – **Jas. 1:13, 17, I Cor. 10:13, Job 42:1-6, 10-11**
- A. What would we have God do? Not ever let anyone get sick? Not ever let anything bad happen? **Rev. 21:3-5**

**Why does God allow bad things to happen to  
innocent people?**

**Do not allow situations in life to define you;  
your choices define you! – Gen. 4:7**

**Be faithful! For God “changeth not”...  
Mal. 3:6**