

# DOES GOD USE TRAGEDY TO TEACH US?



Many believers attribute evil to God's nature but twist it to say it is God who is teaching them something behind the trail or pain. I met a woman once who said to me, she recently got in a car accident and that because of the accident she was able to grow closer to the Lord in that season, so it must have been

God who either did this to her or He allowed it to garner her attention. This could be no further from the truth and is not God's nature to use evil to tempt or draw us to Him.

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one (James 1:13). In God there is no darkness (1 John 1:5) and He does not delight in evil (1 Cor 13:6).

It is the goodness of God that leads man to repentance (Rom 2:4) and He draws us with ever-loving kindness (Jer 31:3). The word says that God has good thoughts towards us not evil, and plans to prosper us and not harm (Jer 29:11).

So, what does God use to teach His children?

**His Word-** All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness (2 Tim 3:16). The word doctrine in Greek is didaskalia and means to teach or instruction. Doctrine teaches us, reproof shows us we are going the wrong way, correction will point us to the right way, and instruction means education and training and means to continue that way.

Blessed is the one you discipline, Lord, the one you teach from your law (Ps 74:12).

**The Holy Spirit-** But the comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He shall teach you all things (John 14:26).

**Grace-** For the Grace of God has appeared bringing salvation for all people. It teaches us to deny ungodliness and worldly lust (Titus 2:11-12).

**The Old Testament-** For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction (Rom 15:4).

God will use His Word, the Holy Spirit, Grace, and the Old Testament to teach His children. Any evil that happens is not God. We live in a fallen world that was impacted by sin during the fall, man has free will that has a flesh that they can yield to at anytime, and there is an enemy that comes to steal, kill, and destroy. The most basic fundamental doctrine a believer can have is that God is good (Ps 34:8) and the devil is bad (John 10:10).