

QA: Where Is God When Storms Cause Death? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: Where is God when storms cause death and destruction?

ANSWER: A study of God's History shows He has answered this question many times.

1. **In Times Of Trouble.** Israel's government and religious leaders said...:

to a tree, "You are my father," And to a stone, "You gave birth to me." For they have turned their back to Me, and not their face. But in the time of their trouble They will say, "Arise and save us." But where are your gods that you have made for yourselves? Let them arise, If they can save you in the time of your trouble; For according to the number of your cities Are your gods, O Judah. (Jeremiah 2:27-28)

Today, the notion that we came from animals is called "Evolution." Children are taught that Earth & Tme, and not God, are responsible for their existences. But when trouble comes, no one cries out to dinosaurs or "Evolution" for help! The furious storm front December 10 caused death and destruction, and thousands called out for God, not "Evolution!"

2. Where Is God When Trouble Arises?

My tears have been my food day and night, While they continually say to me, "Where is your God?" (Psalm 42:3)

Unbelievers taunt believers whose faith is being tested by asking: "Where was God?" It is an ignorant question asked by cruel and heartless people that assumes that:

- a. **God is limited.** Unbelieving Syrians challenged Israelites with: "The LORD is God of the hills, but He is not God of the valleys" (1 Kings 20:28). God met that challenge by defeating the Syrians.
- b. **This test is "ungetover-able."** Believers simply say: "We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair" (2 Corinthians 4:8).
- c. **God is too removed to know our problem:** "'Am I a God near at hand,' says the LORD, 'And not a God afar off?'" (**Jeremiah 23:23**). Prayers to God are answered by mountains of help!

3. How Does God Help? When the time came to build the tabernacle at Mount Sinai,

Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whom the LORD has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, shall do according to all that the LORD has commanded" (Exodus 36:1).

When needs arise, it seems there are always plenty of people who have the talent, and know God's Will, who are ready to step up and do what needs to be done. Ask "how will God help," then look at those who do. "But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good" (2 Thessalonians 3:13). Since Jesus said our giving should not only be done: "before men, to be seen by them" (Matthew 6:1), it's easy to overlook the generous response from churches of Christ who help in time of need.

—— itpll, December 12, 2021