

Choosing the Good Effect of Bad Problems

Acts 21:27-28, 30-31, 35-36, 39-40, 22:1

- I. "Please let me speak to the people," Acts 21:39.
- II. "Paul, how did you retain such self-control?"
- III. "I learned that I can choose what problems do to me."
- IV. "But no one can choose their problems!"
- V. "Correct, but you always choose the effect problems exert on you."
Numbers 13:30-31; 1 Samuel 17:32, 24.
- VI. Choosing the good effect of bad problems.
 - A. Quit blaming God for bad problems.
 1. God does not cause everything, James 1:13, 17; Jeremiah 19:5, 7:31.
 2. Blame directed against God originates in wicked human nature, Romans 8:7; Proverbs 19:3.
 3. Blame guarantees you bad effects from bad problems, Numbers 14:3.
 4. Replace blame with thanksgiving, Ephesians 5:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:18.
 - B. Start trusting God for good effects.
 1. God uses the harm others cause, Acts 22:1; Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28.
 2. Reject the question, "How?" Proverbs 3:5; Psalm 139:6.
 3. Live by faith not by sight, 2 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 11:1.
- VII. Our determination: "I will anticipate the good contained in bad problems." Acts 21:39-40; Jeremiah 29:11.

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