

Does God Send Plagues?

The answer according to Scripture is YES, God says he does send famine and plagues, or affliction -- but for a greater good. (Exodus 11)

The other question is whether God is the author of evil, pain and suffering. That answer is a loud emphatic, NO!

God is not the author of evil, disease and suffering. That is the work of Satan in the fallen world. BUT God uses evil, pain, and suffering, yes, even plagues for his glory and our good.

God knew the heart of Pharaoh was hard and he would not change, so God sent plagues to soften his heart, but he hardened his heart even more.

Finally the last plague came. It was the game changer. It was the straw that broke the camel's back. God touched Pharaoh and the Egyptians where it hurt most -- their firstborn children.

He broke their hearts that they might one day be saved. We see that in the Exodus after this plague the Egyptians were favorably disposed toward the Israelites. God softened their hearts. Then we read that a great multitude of Egyptians joined the people of Israel in the Exodus. They became believers!

Sometimes God uses evil like plagues as a wake up call to those who refuse to pay attention to Him and His commands. David said, "*Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word.*" (Psalm 119:67)

Affliction, disease, calamities, famine, pestilence and war drive us back to God as our only hope. These days of pending calamity of a pandemic has caused us to fear death and drives us to call on God for help and deliverance.

Some men's hearts will be hardened, but many hearts will be made tender again to the voice of God.

"Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word." (Psalm 119:67)

Our nation founded on the Gospel of Jesus Christ has drifted to the precipice of spiritual death. We have turned evil into good, darkness into light, bitter into sweet, wrong into right. We have murdered a million babies per year with impunity. **Now God calls on us to repent even as Daniel did (Daniel 9), for his personal sin and the corporate sins of God's people.**

2 Chronicles 7:13-15

When I shut up the heavens... or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.

Conclusion:

Real grounded faith is to lose it all --family, friends, house, investments, job, wealth and health and still not curse God -- but still praise him in the storm.

See Job 1:20 & 2:10

"In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly."

"What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips."

Praise You in this. Storm, by Casting Crowns

<https://youtu.be/DoqbKyeKOBi>