

# CLOSING THE DOOR ON THE CURSE Part 1

## WHAT IS THE CURSE?

When I refer to the “curse” I’m not talking about the *act* of cursing. Instead, when I refer to the “curse” I’m talking about the effect of the curse (misery, affliction, etc). And, more specifically, is there a reason or a cause behind the “bad things” which we suffer, or is it all just random?

Not everyone sees a reason behind the *effects* of the curse. Sure, everyone can see the effects of the curse, but not everyone can discern the CAUSE of the curse. In fact, most people don’t even bother to try. They assume that “bad things” are simply a *natural* part of life and they can occur without any particular cause.

### **Proverbs 26:2**

**<sup>2</sup> As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, So the curse causeless shall not come.**

This verse insists that there’s no such thing as *accidental curses*. The curse (misery, affliction) is not random or causeless. Curses have a cause or a reason why they exist!

### **Job 5:6**

**<sup>6</sup> Although affliction cometh not forth of the dust, Neither doth trouble spring out of the ground; <sup>7</sup> Yet man is born unto trouble, As the sparks fly upward.**

Even though trouble is common to every man, trouble doesn’t just spring or appear “from the ground” or automatically. If there’s trouble (if there’s a curse) then something had to cause it.

## WHO OR WHAT’S BEHIND THE CURSE?

Some people would say that “bad things” happen because the earth (and man) is under a curse. Therefore, if anyone is behind the curse, then it’s the devil. The devil, they argue, “Comes to steal, kill and to destroy” (**John 10:10**).

First of all, the statement in **John 10:10** is not *specifically* referring to the devil. However, even IF we could prove that the devil does come for this purpose, this still doesn’t prove the devil is *causing* the curse.

### **1 Peter 5:8**

**8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:**

The key word in this verse is “may”. This word tell us that the devil cannot devour (bring a curse) without permission. So, “Who’s giving the devil the permission to bring the curse?”

### **Amos 3:5**

**5 Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no gin *is* for him? Shall *one* take up a snare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all?**

Birds don’t just fall to the ground for NO REASON. If they fall, then something (like a trap) caused them to fall. Also, men do not remove traps for NO REASON. If they are removed, then the traps must have served their purpose (i.e. caught their prey).

### **Amos 3:6**

**6 Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done *it*?**

In the same way, evil doesn’t just show up in a city for NO REASON. If there’s evil (a curse), then the LORD must have sent it. How do we know this?

### **Numbers 23:8**

**8 How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? Or how shall I defy, *whom* the Lord hath not defied?**

No one can cursed (not even by the devil) without God’s permission or approval. This means that if there’s a curse, then God is somehow responsible for it!

## **IS GOD BEHIND EVERY CURSE?**

God *must* be behind every curse (evil), because NO CURSE can exist without THE LORD’S approval!

### **John 3:27**

**27 John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.**

The reason why it's important that we know this is because knowing that God is behind everything that happens keeps us from looking to other things for solutions! If we really want to get to the root of the problem, we must seek God for the solution!

### **Ecclesiastes 7:14**

**14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after him.**

In times of prosperity, we should be joyful (happy). However, in times of adversity we should “consider” (i.e. ponder or think). This is hard for some people, particularly those with an *action bias*.

People with an action bias will favor action over inaction. They are always ready to act immediately, even when the better option might be to ponder and think about how to proceed!

Now, it's important to note *WHAT* we're encouraged to consider. The Bible does not say, “In the day of adversity, consider *the problem*.” Instead, it states, “In the day of adversity, consider [God].” Although the Bible doesn't actually *say* we should consider “God” in the day of adversity, this *is* the implication. We know this because this is how the word is used in the previous verse!

### **Ecclesiastes 7:13**

**13 Consider the work of God: for who can make *that* straight, which he hath made crooked?**

In times of trouble, the one we need to consider most is GOD. This is because He's the *only* one who can make straight what He has made crooked! (Why are we looking to men to solve problems God has created?) Only *God* can deliver us from the problems He creates!

### **Ecclesiastes 7:18**

**18 *It is good that thou shouldest take hold of this; yea, also from this withdraw not thine hand: for he that feareth God shall come forth of them all.***

Notice, it is good when we “take hold of” (consider or *take to heart*) the things he has just said, INCLUDING considering God in times of trouble. Do this will

not only cause you to “come forth” from your problems, but it will also demonstrate that you “fear” the Lord.

When the Bible talks about “fearing” the Lord, it’s talking about *reverencing* and *honoring* God. Moreover, one way we demonstrate that we fear God is when we acknowledge that He is the source of ALL things (both good and bad). Secondly, we demonstrate that we fear God by placing our *hope* or trust in God!

### **Psalm 147:11**

**11 The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him, In those that hope in his mercy.**

We may fear God enough to WORSHIP Him, but do we fear Him enough to HOPE in His mercy? If the answer is no, then God is out to change this. We’re coming to the days when God shall bring severe trials upon His people for the purpose of seeing who will fear Him enough to trust in Him for their salvation!

Do you know the cause behind your curse (affliction)? Have you even *considered* (pondered) it in your mind or tried to investigate it for yourself? It seems we’re trained to look for a cause behind everything, except the CURSE. When we do look, we tend to look in the wrong place. We’re looking to doctors, psychologists, counselors and professionals of every kind, but we’re not looking to God. Anything we discover from men is merely a *secondary* cause at best.

For example, there was an investigation into the origin of the Corona Virus. They first concluded that the virus came from bats. Just recently it’s been determined that the virus originated from a lab in China. These are merely *secondary* causes. The true cause of virus was God!

Some people might disagree with this. They might think that I just indicted God (charged Him with a crime). No, if there’s any crime being committed, it’s being committed by those who refuse to acknowledge God as the source of all things (good and bad). And refusing to see God behind everything that happens keeps men from humbling themselves and repenting. And it also keeps them from fearing God and putting their hope and trust in Him. Let us not make that same mistake!