

All Things for Good

Philemon 15–16

What do you think people mean when they say ‘Everything happens for a reason?’

Philemon 15–16

For perhaps this is why he was separated from you for a brief time, so that you might get him back permanently...as a dearly loved brother.

Does God take the failings of others and turn them into good for God’s people? (Record some initial thoughts here if you have them.)

Joseph

Genesis 50:20

You planned evil against me; God planned it for good to bring about the present result—the survival of many people.

Did God plan the evil actions of Joseph’s brothers? If not, what did God plan?

Judas

Matthew 16:21–23

From then on Jesus began to point out to his disciples that it was necessary for him to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and scribes, be killed, and be raised the third day. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, “Oh no, Lord! This will never happen to you!”

Jesus turned and told Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me because you’re not thinking about God’s concerns but human concerns.”

Did God design Judas for the betrayal of Jesus? And why is Jesus suffering and dying in line with “God’s concerns”?

Romans

Romans 8:28

We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

What does the Apostle Paul say God does with bad things?

Romans 8:29

For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

What does God want to do with the bad things in you?
