

**ROCKY RIVER CHURCH**  
**WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE?**  
**DECONSTRUCTING DOUBT – MAY 16, 2026**  
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*“My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”*  
**-Matthew 27:43**

**ROMANS 8:18-28**

<sup>18</sup> Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. <sup>19</sup> For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. <sup>20</sup> Against its will, all creation was subjected to God’s curse. But with eager hope, <sup>21</sup> the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God’s children in glorious freedom from death and decay. <sup>22</sup> For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup> And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us. <sup>24</sup> We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don’t need to hope for it. <sup>25</sup> But if we look forward to something we don’t yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.)

<sup>26</sup> And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don’t know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. <sup>27</sup> And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God’s own will. <sup>28</sup> And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

**#1. We suffer because \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Against its will, all creation was subjected to God’s curse.” -Romans 8:20*

*“No one is righteous—not even one.” -Romans 3:10*

*“Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.” -John 16:33*

**#2. God is NOT \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness.” -Romans 8:26*

*“He was despised and rejected – a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief.” -Isaiah 53:3*

*“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.” -Psalm 34:18*

**#3. Suffering can produce \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” -Romans 8:28*

*“You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good.” -Genesis 50:20*

**#4. Our \_\_\_\_\_ – God’s glory is eternal.**

*“Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.”  
-Romans 8:18*

*“He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” -Revelation 21:4*

**#5. God’s purpose is \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“God causes everything to work together for the good...” -Romans 8:28*



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