

“So That”

Situations

Introduction

You have heard me say this for years....

EVERYTHING that occurs in your life is **GOD ARRANGED OR GOD ALLOWED**

For many people this is **hard to comprehend** because it does not make sense that a God who is **loving, caring, merciful and all-powerful** would **ALLOW OR ARRANGE** Evil things to happen to **GOOD PEOPLE....**

Remember This...

Isaiah 55:8-9 (NIV)

8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD.
9 "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

We must keep in mind that we were created **FOR GOD'S PURPOSE...NOT OUR OWN**

So our goals, objectives, and our pursuits may not **ALIGN WITH GOD'S PURPOSE** for our lives...
Common Goals in Life ~ **Get A Good Job, Start a Family, Support My Family, Get A Good Education....etc....**

Introduction

So when you examine *your plans, purpose, goals, objectives* ~ *DO THEY ALIGN WITH GOD'S*

Example

Your Desire is to go to work, make this money and come on home....

2 Peter 3:9 (NASB)

9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, NOT WISHING FOR ANY TO PERISH but FOR ALL TO COME TO REPENTANCE.

God creates opportunities to connect you with people who are perishing...on their way to hell... SO THAT ~ YOU CAN BE THE SALT OF EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD

1 Timothy 2:1-4,8 (NLT)

1 I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. 2 Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority SO THAT we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. 3 THIS IS GOOD AND PLEASES GOD OUR SAVIOR, 4 WHO WANTS EVERYONE TO BE SAVED AND TO UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH. 8 In every place of worship, I WANT MEN TO PRAY with holy hands lifted up to God, free from anger and controversy.

*God allows/arranges catastrophes {Katrina, Rita, George Floyd...etc.....}
SO THAT SITUATIONS*

SO THAT SITUATIONS

God is Sovereign and he allows, arranges, and orchestrates certain circumstances in life to occur to give us “SO THAT SITUATIONS”. He uses these situations for A GREATER PURPOSE!!!

He **allowed** your company to “down-size”SO THAT...

Philippians 4:19 (NKJV)

19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

He **allowed** that person to walk out on you....SO THAT...

Proverbs 18:24 (NIV)

24 A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

He **allowed** chaos, conflict and confusion to occur in your life...SO THAT...

Isaiah 54:17 (NKJV)

17 No weapon formed against you shall prosper...

He **allowed** the bank to say no....SO THAT...

Ephesians 3:20-21 (NKJV)

20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us...

Perspective On Purpose

When you understand **PURPOSE**... It Gives you a **Different Perspective** About **Pain and Predicaments**

John 9:1-3 (NIV)

1 As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "**but this happened SO THAT the work of God might be displayed in his life.**"

Human Question: WHY???? ~ SO THAT HE WILL BE A VISIBLE DEMONSTRATION OF MY POWER

2 Corinthians 12:8-9 (NLT)

8 Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away.

9 Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, **SO THAT the power of Christ can work through me.**

Human Request: Take It Away ~ SO THAT MY POWER CAN WORK IN YOU

Hebrews 10:35-36 (NLT)

35 So do not throw away this **CONFIDENT TRUST IN THE LORD**. Remember the great reward it brings you! 36 Patient endurance is **WHAT YOU NEED NOW...**

SO THAT you will continue to do God's will. THEN you will receive all that he has promised.

Human Question: Why??? ~ SO THAT YOU CAN CONTINUE TO DO GOD'S WILL

*This Perspective Can Only Be Obtained
Through The Word of God....*

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

*16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting
and training in righteousness,*

17 SO THAT the man of God may be THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED for every good work.

*When I Study God's Word It **EQUIPS ME** For Service*

- Not To Make Me Shout
- Not To Make Me Feel Good

*Being **EQUIPPED WITH TRUTH** enables us to face our trials from a **DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE***

Romans 15:4 (NIV)

*4 For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, SO THAT through
ENDURANCE and the **ENCOURAGEMENT** of the Scriptures
we might have hope....*

*When I Study God's Word It **Encourages Me** and **Gives Me The Endurance I Need***

Job 23:10 (NASB)

10 "But He knows the way I take; When He has tried me, I SHALL COME FORTH AS GOLD.

This Perspective Can Only Be Obtained Through The Word of God....

Equipped To Handle Death.... Encouragements Me Through The Pain... Helps Me Endure The Loss

Hebrews 9:27 (NKJV)

27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment...

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 (NKJV)

1 To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven:

2 A time to be born, And a time to die...

James 4:14 (NKJV)

14 whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life?

It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

Illustration

ACT EXAMPLE

Psalm 90:12 (NLT)

12 Teach us to realize the brevity of life, SO THAT we may grow in wisdom.

*How Do We
Develop
This Perspective?*

God Has Some “SO THAT SITUATIONS”
With Your Name On Them...

James 1:2-4 (NKJV)

2 My brethren, **count it all joy** when you fall into various trials,

3 **knowing** that **the testing of your faith produces patience.**

4 But let patience have its perfect work,

SO THAT you may be **PERFECT AND COMPLETE, LACKING NOTHING.**

When You Face A Trial/Test in your life....

See it as a “SO THAT SITUATION”

Why is this Happening to ME....

SO THAT I Will Be Perfect ~ “**PERFECT IN PURPOSE**”... Complete my task, assignment

SO THAT I Will Be Complete ~ **Without Flaws, Defects, Shortcomings...**

SO THAT I Lack Nothing ~ In HIM **I HAVE EVERYTHING MENTALITY** ~ Psalm 23

The Standard For Christlike Living

Matthew 5:48 (NASB)

48 "Therefore you are to **BE PERFECT**, as your heavenly Father **IS PERFECT.**

God Prepares Us
Through
“So That” Situations