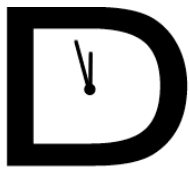


DECISION

God's Mysterious Ways

*The Mystery of God using the obviously bad
To make an even greater good!*

May 4th, 2010



DECISION

God’s Mysterious Ways

The Mystery of God using the obviously bad to make an even greater good!

Remember from before...

Romans 8:28 – “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Breakaway Discussion

1. *Think of and share one instance in which God has turned something bad in your life into something good.*
2. *What’s the difference between being simply optimistic & looking for God’s hand in a bad situation?*

Read it, Receive it...

Romans 11:30-31 – “Once, you Gentiles were rebels against God, but when the people of Israel rebelled against him, God was merciful to you instead. Now they are the rebels, and God’s mercy has come to you so that they, too, will share in God’s mercy.”

How is it that God can orchestrate rebellion into wider-scale obedience? Good question.

Which is the true interpretation of the previous verses?

- a. God has, despite people’s rebellion towards him, secured all their salvations.
- OR,
- b. God has, through the rebellion of his chosen, provided the opportunity of salvation to all.

Read Philippians 2:5-11 (every knee should bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord)

God used the seemingly impossible situation of His Son Jesus being wrongly convicted and executed as a criminal to bring salvation to all.

Does everyone go to heaven in the end? Or does everyone simply have the *opportunity* to go to heaven?

Read Romans 10:5-11 (NLT)

Trusting Jesus in your heart	=	makes you right with God.
Confessing that God raised Jesus from the dead	=	saves you.

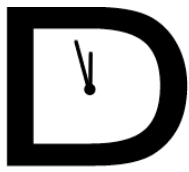
<i>How has Jesus death, brought us life?</i>	God’s justice system:	Action =	Consequence
		Sin =	Death

We sin = death is required of us.

Jesus offered His own death in place of ours. That’s the mysterious method of saving us.

Consider the mysterious journey through which He has provided salvation to all of us non-Israelites.

How can understanding God’s “Mysterious Ways” help us to see how amazing He is?



DECISION

God Moves In a Mysterious Way

By William Cowper

God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never failing skill
He treasures up His bright designs
And works His sovereign will.

**Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy and shall break
In blessings on your head.**

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err
And scan His work in vain;
God is His own interpreter,
And He will make it plain.