



The Anabaptist

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ANTIOCH BAPTIST COLLEGE

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When Good Things Happen To Bad People

By Pastor Ronnie Wolfe

We as God's children are so comfortable in the world many times that we do not realize that Jesus told us that we would have persecution in the world.

Yet when we have this persecution, many of us cringe at the notion that God would allow these things to happen to us. Jesus said in John 15:18 *If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.*

None of us should be surprised when people want to destroy Christianity. Before the Apostle Paul was saved, he desired to do God's will by imprisoning and killing God's people, whom he did not know were God's people until the grace of God visited him.

III. BE FIRM AND CONFIDENT

David was taken aback by the prosperity of the wicked in Psalm 73, and he complained to the Lord; but when he went into the sanctuary of the Lord, he understood that the wicked are on a slippery way. Notice his wonderful conclusion:

Psalm 73:21 *Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins. 22 So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before thee. 23 Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden*

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Ps 73:12 *Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.*

My, how we cry and howl when the ungodly prosper! How we complain to God and desire their riches and their pleasures! Would to God we would love spiritual virtues more than we love worldly pleasures!

We are all sinners, but God's grace has separated us from the world, and his love is intimate toward us, thus we are not to love the world (1 John 2:15).

Here are seven things that we should do when good things happen to bad people.

1. DON'T BE DISCOURAGED

Remember when the Hebrews were going into the Promised Land? They had much discouragement, but we remember the words of Moses to them:

Deut. 1:28 *Whither shall we go up? our brethren have discouraged our heart, saying, The people is greater and taller than we; the cities are great and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there. 29 Then I said unto you, Dread not, neither be afraid of them. 30 The LORD your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes;*

So many times we get discouraged, but we must do as David did in encouraging himself in the Lord (1 Sam. 30:6).

II. EXPECT PERSECUTION

John 16:33 *These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*



Nuggets of Gold

By Hillary Howell

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith: that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, ... and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge. That ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:17.19

Roaming through the southwestern U.S. desert in the spring-time one finds wildflowers in beautiful and colorful bloom. One day as I paused to admire a bright little flower, I said, "Little flower, you are so pretty there twisting in the breeze. Why is it that out here in the dry earth you show forth such glory while domestic flowers need constant irrigation to produce their contribution of floral exhibition." Said the little flower, "Sir, I remain alive and well because I place my feet deep into the soil to reach the source of my secret of life. Sure enough, digging deep through the dry desert earth we soon reached the damp soil and touching the level of just enough moisture was the long lengths of roots nature had

provided as the source of life-giving strength. With this accomplished, the little wildflower burst into charm and color for the world to enjoy.

Herein like the desert flower, is the aggressive and faithfulness of the obedient Christian life. The careless and worldly Christian who has not committed his or her life to please the Lord Jesus Christ is similar to the flower with shallow roots, being easily led astray by the world lacking the joy of daily blessings as well as often a guilt complex. One of the sad losses is that of happy Christian fellowship. Yet, the life dedicated to a daily walk with the Savior is one of peace and joy and resting in the knowledge the Heavenly Father has provided every needed blessing for every vicissitude of life. The believer who digs deep into the life-giving truths of the word of God manifests the glory of Christ's presence before the world.

Hillary Howell

Prov. 23:17 Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long. 18 For surely there is an end; and thine expectation shall not be cut off.

People in our day hear so much gloom and doom that everyone seems to expect the worst, but God tells us there is an end to evil things, and our expectation will not be cut off; it will coast into eternity where we shall live with Jesus Christ.

Just keep on going; keep on working—God will bless!

VI. LOOK FORWARD TO GREAT THINGS

Look forward to God's vengeance. He will repay (Rom. 12:19).

Look forward to a crown. 1 Peter 5:4 *And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

Look forward to Christ's coming. Heb. 10:37 *For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.*

What a day that will be! The

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Good Things ... Bad People

(Continued from page 1)

me by my right hand. 24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

Oh, that we might go to God's sanctuary and learn more perfectly the ways of the Lord, which are too wonderful for me (Ps. 139:6). Oh, that we may learn to be firm in our convictions and to go on to perfection with the writer of Hebrews! (Heb. 6:1)

IV. BE OF GOOD CHEER

In John 16:33, which we have already considered, the final words in that verse are: *but be of*

good cheer; I have overcome the world.

The Lord encouraged Paul in Acts 23 to continue on with his work without being afraid, because he had much more work to do.

We live sometimes as if we are the ones who must overcome the world; many so-called Christians are living as if the grace of God depends upon their living and working out the grace of God in their lives. But the scriptures tell us that we are saved by grace alone (Eph. 2:8-10), and that is not of ourselves but of God.

The Bible also tells us that we have access into this grace wherein we stand (Rom. 5:2).

V. EXPECT GOD TO BLESS

Is That Clear?

A little girl asked her Sunday School teacher, "Why do they always say 'amen' after they pray in church? Why don't they ever say 'a-women'?"

Before the teacher could think of an answer to that one, a little boy in the class spoke up and said, "they do that for the same reason that all the songs they sing are 'hymns.'"

Antioch Baptist College Classes For Fall, 2007

Personal Finance	Gary Niederlehner
Eschatology	Dan Ferrell
Hebrew	Ron Johnson
Bible Geography	Frank Smith
English Composition	Ronnie Wolfe
Principles of Teaching	Jim Rankin

Look for times and specifics in our next issue of The Anabaptist. We are looking forward to a good fall semester. If you know people who would be blessed by taking classes, please let them know, or let us know, and we will send some literature to them.

Pray for the school that God will continue to bless. We need students, and we need churches to get behind us in this effort. We are working hard to make this a great school. Pray with us, and help us.

Offerings

Bohon Road Baptist Church Harrodsburg, Kentucky	\$200.00
Calvary Baptist Church Cincinnati, Ohio	\$200.00
First Baptist Church Harrison, Ohio	\$200.00
Morning Star Baptist Church West Chester, Ohio	\$200.00
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$800.00

Our Web Site

Check out our web site at:

www.antiochbaptistcollege.org

You may check the latest updates on our college catalog. You may see the latest schedules of classes and learn about the cost of classes, the history of the school, and the descriptions of classes that we offer.

If you have suggestions about the web site, just go to the Feedback section at the top of the page and drop us a note.

Try doing the work on a web site course on Bibliology, a course about the scriptures. You will enjoy it. If you want to send me your answers, I would love to see them; if not, that is fine, too. If you would like one semester credit for this course, just let us know.

Pray for our school. God is doing wonderful things, and we are working hard to make it a good school.

Good Things ... Bad People

(Continued from page 2)

expectation of our desire for the presence of the Lord will be completely satisfied. I so desire to see Him as He is, don't you?

VII. KEEP GOING

The last thing that we must do when good things happen to bad people is to just keep going. We cannot stop; we cannot turn around; we cannot pause; we cannot let up; we must plow forward in the field that God has given us to tend.

Remember Heb 12:1 *Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,*

God has set a race before us, not so that we can get discouraged, not that we may become lazy and burdened down with this life, but that we may enjoy the race, running it by the rules, joining others in the race, doing the best we can for the Master.

May God help us to see that in this world good things happen to bad people, but may we also go to his sanctuary as David did and understand ... *that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.* (Rom. 8:28). In this we cannot lose. In this we must continue if we are his disciples indeed!

When it is all done, we are gone; so let us not go until it is all done for each one of us to God's glory: the service, the praise, the patience, the work, the joy. Ω

**Joys are our wings;
Sorrows our spurs.**

Richter

Summer Classes Antioch Baptist College

Christian Manhood

Teacher: Bro. Dan Ferrell

Good for Junior & Senior boys, fathers of boys, and those who work with boys

June 25 - July 2, beginning at 6:00 PM

2 Credits - Total \$60.00

Revelation And God

Teacher: Bro. Ronnie Wolfe

How God reveals Himself to us, and how credible is that revelation?

July 9 - 13, beginning at 6:00 PM

1 Credit - Total \$25.00

Home Bible Study

Teacher: Bro. Jim Rankin

The importance of home Bible study, how to institute a home Bible study, introduction to a workbook

July 16 - 20, beginning at 6:00 PM

1 Credit - Total \$35.00

Cost includes workbook

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Or come to class the first night of any particular class

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