

# Why do bad things happen to good people?

## (A lesson from the life of the Cancer Soldier)

Article by Josue Ruiz

Whether it be poverty, food shortage, unemployment or severe illness, none can avoid the hardships of living in a fallen cursed world. (Genesis 3:17-19)

One of the many consequences of humanity's sin is that bad things can happen to any one of us, even to "good" people. (Ecclesiastes 7:20), (Romans 3:23).

Being "good" does not allow us to avoid accidents, health issues, etc. Jesus himself said that we *will* have trials/troubles in this world. (John 16:33)

Many times, we are so busy with our daily lives that we forget tomorrow is not guaranteed. (James 4:14-15)

God (being omniscient and sovereign) sometimes allows bad things to happen in our lives for the greater good. This is His permissive will.

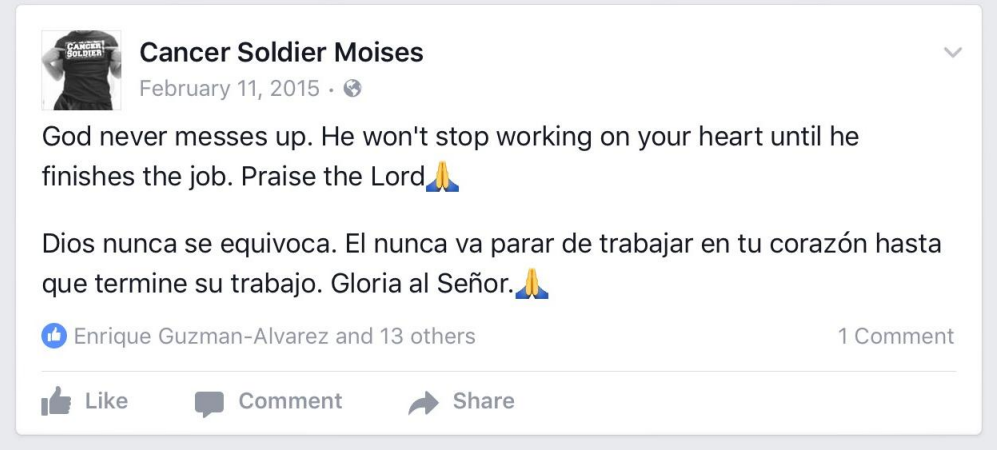
In the Bible, John 9 is a great example of an explanation for what happened in the life of Moises Ruiz.

- As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him."

Moises said it himself: "What happened to me was for a reason. To change the hearts of people around me that don't believe in God the way he wants us to." (3/1/2013)

God *allowed* the cancer to happen in Moises' life so that his testimony could point his family and friends to the way, the truth and the life. (John 14:6)

Moises was chosen as one of those with great faith, to endure an extreme trial and be an example to others. (Hebrews 11:35-38)




Since all of humanity suffered from the consequences of sin, God provided a hope and solution. The separation between God and man, along with death, was the ultimate consequence of sin. And so, God sent his son Jesus to die and pay the penalty for our sins, so we don't have to. Jesus' suffering is the biggest example of something bad happening to someone good. He never sinned nor did wrong but was executed by crucifixion.

Job is another prime example of bad things happening to someone good. (Job 1:21) Ultimately, we must trust God when we go through trials and remember they will help us become stronger and increase our faith.

Overcoming trials leads to a powerful testimony, and a powerful testimony points many, especially those who are impacted by it, to our Lord.

Fow now, God will continue to allow the consequences of sin to remain on the earth, but one day there will be no more sorrows or pain! (Revelation 21:4)

"And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:3-5 (NIV)