

# **Trusting God, Even When Life Hurts**

*Jerry Bridges*

## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 10:29-31.

II. When bad things happen to us, we are faced with the question of whether or not God is in control of that event. (James 4:13-15)

A. God has detailed control over the affairs of the universe, so we should not be afraid. (Matthew 10:29-31)

1. God has a revealed, moral will. This is revealed in the Bible.

2. God also has a sovereign will over the events and affairs of the universe which He has not revealed to us. (Lamentations 3:37-38)

a) God either causes or permits both the bad and good things to happen in our lives.

III. God is not only sovereign, but He also cares for us. (Luke 12:6-7)

A. God is intimately involved with the details of our lives.

B. In order to trust God, we must be convinced both that God is in control of the events of our lives and that He loves us.

1. Sometimes, we have a subjective experience of God's love in our emotions.

2. Sometimes, we have to accept that God loves us based on the testimony of scripture. (1 John 4:9-10)

a) The cross is an irrefutable demonstration of God's love for us. (Romans 8:32)

b) God's training discipline is evidence of His love for us. (Hebrews 12)

IV. Thirdly, we can trust God because He knows what He's doing. (Romans 8:28-29)

A. God causes all events to work together for our good, which is to be conformed to the likeness of Jesus. (Hebrews 12:10)

B. We cannot always understand how the events of our lives will work for good because we cannot understand how God's mind works. He asks us to just trust Him without knowing why. (Isaiah 55:8-9; Romans 11:33)

**Application questions:**

1. According to this message, God's ultimate good for you is for you to become progressively more like Jesus. How does that strike you? Is this the ultimate good that you have in mind for your life?

---

---

2. How does it make you feel that God allows or causes both all the good and all the bad things that have happened in your life? How could this be a comfort that allows you to trust God more as opposed to distrust Him?

---

---

3. What evidence do you have that God loves you?

---

---