

### 3 WAYS THE SOVEREIGN GOD CREATES CALAMITY

Isaiah 45:7                    I make peace and create evil

New King James -- I make peace and create calamity  
New American Standard Bible -- the One forming light, creating  
darkness, causing well-being and creating calamity -- I  
am the Lord Who does all these  
Moffatt -- I bring bliss and calamity  
Contemporary English -- I create happiness and sorrow

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\* Here are 3 approaches about God's involvement in calamity

1. God initiates the calamity -- God gets directly involved with the details -- for God's specific purpose
2. God initiates the calamity -- God allows Satan to provide the details with God's parameters (a "hedge") -- for God's specific purpose
3. God allows time and chance to initiate the calamity -- but God will keep the calamity within the direction of His overall plan

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1. God Initiates the Calamity  
God Gets Directly Involved With the Details

\* God was directly involved in the flood

Gen. 6:7                    I will destroy man, whom I have created  
13                            I will destroy them with the earth  
17                            I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth  
                              -- to destroy all flesh on the earth

\* God was directly involved with Pharaoh

Exod. 4:21                    "I will harden his heart" -- not let you go  
22-23                        tell Pharaoh -- "I will kill your son"  
Exod. 7:3                    "I will harden Pharaoh's heart"  
13                            heart grew hard -- as the Lord had said  
Exod. 8:15                    hardened his heart -- as the Lord had said  
32                            Pharaoh hardened his heart  
Exod. 9:12                    the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh  
35                            heart of Pharaoh was hard -- as the Lord said  
Exod. 10:1                    "I have hardened his heart"  
Exod. 14:8                    the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh  
Exod. 12:29                    God smote all the firstborn in Egypt  
Exod. 14:26-28                God killed the Egyptians in the sea

\* A few other examples

Gen. 11:6-10 God confounded their language -- scattered  
Gen. 19:24 brimstone and fire upon Sodom and Gomorrah  
Deut. 28:15-68 proclaimed national curses for disobedience  
2 Sam. 6:7 God killed Uzzah  
Acts 5:1-10 God killed Ananias and Sapphira  
2 Thes. 1:6 to recompense tribulation to them that trouble  
Rev. 6:1-17 the Lamb opened the seals -- also, Rev. 8:1

\* God instructed others to bring about calamity

Deut. 19:18-21 judges -- eye for eye -- name of justice  
Deut. 27:14-26 proclaimed a list of curses for disobedience  
1 Sam. 15:3,33 Samuel fulfilled God's instruction

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2. God Initiates the Calamity  
God Allows Satan to Provide the Details

Job 1:8 God asked--have you considered My servant Job?  
11 Satan's suggestion  
12 God approved  
Job 2:3 God asked--have you considered My servant Job?  
4-5 Satan's suggestion  
6 God approved  
1 Kings 22:20 God asked how to persuade Ahab -- two beings  
gave suggestions  
21 a spirit offered to do it  
22 God asked how -- the spirit gave his plan --  
God accepted

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3. God Allows Time and Chance to Initiate Calamity  
God Will Keep the Calamity Within the Direction  
of His Overall Plan

Eccles. 8:11 God allows men to do evil works  
Eccles. 9:11 time and chance happens to all  
Matt. 5:45 God makes His sun to rise on the evil and on  
the good -- God sends rain on the just  
and on the unjust  
Luke 13:1-3 do you suppose that these Galileans were worse  
sinners than all other Galileans?  
4-5 do you think that these 18 people killed were  
worse sinners than all the other people  
in Jerusalem?

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1 Tim. 1:17 give honor and glory unto the King -- eternal,  
immortal, invisible, the only wise God

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