

We invent all manner of justifications for why bad things happen to good people. The fact of the matter as described by Rabbi Kushner in his book When Bad Things Happen to Good People is that it does happen. Possibly like Job, there is a Satan, whose job it is to test our convictions. Satan is actually not a Name, the title "Ha Satan" in Hebrew means the Prosecutor. Possibly as described in Psalm 26, the righteous plead to the LORD out of their suffering. There have been times when each of us question "Why Lord? Am I supposed to learn something from this circumstance? I have endured this before, so what more am I to learn?"

Over 40 years in Ordained Pastoral Ministry, I wish that some special honors or accolades came with the experience... I have known those, who believed that when you have lived a moral and good life, be careful because evil may try to make an example of you!

I only know, that given the choice between believing in God, trusting in GOD, doing the best I can to care for others; versus, not doing so? The effort to care simply meant having a purpose; and not believing, not hoping to me meant a purposeless life.

Ultimately, I know that my life is no better than my ancestors, but I do trust and pray my life has made a difference. If not, at the very least I did enjoy this life.