

Why do good things happen to bad people?

Be still before the Lord and
wait patiently for him; do
not fret when people
succeed in their ways.

Psalm 37:7

So I tried to understand
why the wicked prosper.
But what a difficult task it is! Then I went
into your sanctuary, O God, and I finally
understood the destiny of the wicked.

Psalm 73:16-17



How can these two verses help us get a godly perspective on what we may see as being unfair or even wrong?

Why do bad things happen to good people?

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a **gracious thing**, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you **endure**? But if when you do good and suffer for it you **endure**, this is a **gracious thing** in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 2:18-25 (ESV)

Translations – ‘*gracious thing*’; the word is **charis** (grace) and almost all English translations miss this key word, e.g.

- NIV ‘*it is commendable*’ sounds more like a school report!
- NLT ‘*God is pleased*’ really? in what way?



How does this New Testament passage give us some perspective on why a Christian may suffer somethings seemingly unjustly?