

# Why Do Evil Men Rule?

The terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon remind us that we live a world where evil men have power. Some wonder why and question whether or not God cares or is in control. The Bible has the answer to these questions.

Evil men exist because Satan holds sway over this world (Ephesians 2:2; 2 Corinthians 4:4; John 14:30). He does not force people to follow him, but entices them through lusts and pride (1 John 2:16). God created man with free will, and many exercise that will for wicked ends (cf. Joshua 24:15; Matthew 7:13-14). So, why are they allowed to rule or have power?

The Word of God reveals that evil men rule for four reasons: 1. To chastise God's rebellious people (Amos 3:14); 2. To destroy other evil men (Jeremiah 50:18); 3. Because of man's stubbornness (1 Samuel 8; Romans 1:18-28); 4. To cause men to turn to God (Exodus 1:8-14; 2:23-24).

We believe the terrorist attacks were not due to the first two reasons, but the last two. Many in the middle east have stubbornly rebelled against God, turning from the Bible to the Koran. They have demanded leaders who are bent on destroying anything or anyone not adhering to their false religion. Thus, they have evil men who rule them.

Further, the terrible things that have happened will serve to turn some to God. In times of tragedy, we are more sober minded (Ecclesiastes 7:1-2). Many begin to reflect upon the meaning of life and try to figure out what really matters. Their hearts turn away from earth and toward heaven (cf. Colossians 3:2). Some will read the Bible and discover that life is should be about serving God (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

God does care. He cared so much that He send His Son to die (John 3:16). If God cared enough to do that, then He cares about the things happening now. He is still in control, He is still God. As Daniel put it, "...the Most High rules in the kingdom of men" (Daniel 4:25).

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