

Seeing Circumstances and Events Through a Different Set of Eyes

When you get to know many of the people who attend *Kol Simcha* Messianic Congregation you find many individuals who have gone through very difficult trials in their lives. They are *Adonai's* heroes. Personally, I believe this allows our congregation to be compassionate and understanding and able to love many people in the places that they are while allowing them space to be nurtured among understanding like-families. Wisdom is viewing life from The Almighty's perspective. His ways are always higher than our ways (⁸'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways.' It is a declaration of *Adonai*. ⁹'For as the heavens are higher than earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts'' *Isaiah 55:8-9*). If a person interprets events from his own point of view, he will experience negative emotions such as discouragement, disillusionment, ungratefulness, fear, or anger. It is amazing how our attitudes will change to hopefulness, gratefulness, peace, and contentment when we see the same events or circumstances through a different set of eyes. People do not give God any credit for creation but they always are ready to give Him credit for tearing His creation apart (since tornadoes, storms, earthquakes are called 'acts of God').

A car accident can be viewed from two perspectives: our and God's. Are there any benefits to a fender bender? Why would God allow us to go through any such trial?



From Our Perspective	Benefits
Anger that it happened	To see the frailty of things
Guilt for being responsible	To set our affections on things above
Blame for other causes	To learn to be more alert
Sorrow over loss of money	To be thankful for safety
Grief over injury	To show that life is like a vapor
Regret over carelessness	To be a testimony to others involved
Worry over lack of a car	To humble us for more of His grace
Concerns over its repair	To remind us that we are stewards
Frustration over time lost	To cry out to Him in the day of trouble

Can We Know Why God Let It Happen?

The ability to see from God's perspective does not come naturally. It is a discipline that God wants us to develop in connection with other aspects of spiritual growth. Notice that in the following verses, special wisdom about the ways of God is given to those who meet specific prerequisites:

- If we yield our rights – we will have meekness: ⁹*He guides the humble (meek) in what is right, and teaches the humble His way* (Ps. 25:9).
- If we are pure in heart – there will be no hidden iniquity: *“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God [see as God sees?]”* (Matthew 5:8).
- If we obey *Yeshua's* commandments: ¹⁴*You are My friends if you do what I command you.* ¹⁵*“I am no longer calling you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing. Now I have called you friends, because everything I have heard from My Father I have made known to you”* (John 15:14-15).
- If we develop spiritual discernment: ¹⁴*Now a natural man does not accept the things of the Ruach Elohim, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned”* (1 Cor. 2:14).
- If we consider the opposite of our natural inclinations: (*Isaiah 55:8-9*).
- If we are spiritual: ¹⁵*But the one who is spiritual discerns all things, and he himself is discerned by no one. For ¹⁶who has known the mind of *Adonai*, that he will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Messiah”* (1 Cor. 2:15-16).
- If we fear Him: ¹⁴*The secret of *Adonai* is for those who fear Him. He makes His covenant known to them”* (Ps. 25:14)

Scriptural Principles to Help Us Know Why it happened

- All things work together for good: *“²⁸ Now we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son...” (Romans 8:28-29)*
- We have the mind of Messiah: (see 1 Cor. 2:14)
- We are commanded to rejoice in everything: *“¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray constantly, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Messiah Yeshua” (1 Thess. 5:16-18).*

Why did the Lord let me have a difficult roommate?

1. Motivates me to give self control
2. It uncovers rights I had not surrendered
3. Teaches me to love neighbor as self
4. It taught me to relate to others
5. It prompted me to pray more often
6. It turned me to God as a friend
7. It drew me closer to my own family
8. It made me glad (appreciative) for those that I do get along with
9. Showed me ways not to irritate others
10. It caused spiritual growth in me
11. It made me look forward to heaven
12. It helped me to be sensitive to other's needs

Some Basic Questions to Ask

What character qualities does this promote in me?

How will this allow me to be more like *Yeshua*?

What have I done to cause them?

How can I use this to counsel others?

How can this help me get an eternal focus?

How can I rejoice in this? By thanking God I receive the power of the Spirit, e.g., love, joy, peace, etc. because (*“My grace is sufficient/enough for you...” see 2 Cor. 12:9-10*)