



# Seasons In Time

ENCOUNTERING GOD FACE TO FACE...  
IN OUR BRIEF JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE

## Life Season III – My Young Adult Life and God (Continued)

### I Didn't Think Life Would Be Like This!

**L**ife was like a fairytale for me. I was 21 when I found the man of my dreams. We met in college and by the time I turned 22 we were happily married...like a princess and her prince in a Disney story. We had a beautiful home in the suburbs and he had a great job in the city. We even had a cute little puppy to keep us company until we would decide to start a family. We went on afternoon drives in the country and walks in the park with our puppy. But a year later my fairytale turned into a living nightmare. I couldn't believe this could happen to us. *My husband had a massive heart attack and died on the operating table. I was widowed at 23! I was angry at my husband for leaving me, angry at life, and angry at God for taking him away. No, never in a million years did I think that life would be like this.*

**"A**ids?!" I bellowed in horror. *"That's Impossible! I'm not a drug user or in a lifestyle that could cause this. I've been faithful to my wife and I'm only 30 years old! And besides that, I'm a Christian! This can't be happening to me!"* The doctor quietly sat at his desk while I ranted on. Then with a compassionate voice he told me how I contracted this dreaded disease. It happened while I was on a mission trip in South America. I had to undergo emergency surgery for an erupted appendix and the blood I received was contaminated with the Aids virus. *Why would God allow me get a fatal disease when I was serving Him?!*



*Why Do Bad Things Happen To Good People?* That's the ageless question that has plagued mankind from all walks of life and cultures. But for Christians who search the Scriptures for answers, here's what we discover:

1. **Pain and Suffering Was Never God's Intention.** God is good and merciful (*Ps. 145:8-9*). There is no evil in Him (*1 John 1:5*). It's not His desire for anybody to suffer or die...regardless of who they are (*Ezek. 33:11*).
2. **Lucifer's Rebellion Brought Evil to the Earth.** Lucifer and his angels were cast to the earth bringing with them evil and corruption (*Rev. 12:1-17*). That's why we all live in a world of wickedness, suffering and death.
3. **Suffering Is Also the Direct Consequence of Sin in Eden.** God warned what would happen, but Adam and Eve wouldn't listen! Thus sin, suffering and death were passed on to all their offspring (*Gen. 3:16-19*).

*Yet, in Christ's Redemptive love, God can turn evil into good through our faith in Him. Read what happened:*

**A**fter my husband died, I was in a state of shock. I moved back with my parents until I could get on my feet again. At first I thought God was paying me back for not going to church during my college years. I cried myself to sleep at nights asking why He would do this to me. That was 5 years ago. Slowly, with my parent's love, patience and counsel, I began attending a church again. I'll never forget the sermon the pastor brought about the tragic loss of his wife and the anger he felt toward God. He told of the grace of God that comforted him and transformed his grief into compassion and ministry to others. *"And now...that's my story," I declared over the microphone as I was about to be baptized. "And this can be your story, too!"*

**A**s my wife and I sat in church on the first Sunday after the tragic news of my disease, I couldn't even sing or pray to God. The pastor's words fell on deaf ears as I sat in disbelief of what had happened to me and my family. As far as I was concerned, my life was over! But then something happened...something far greater than self-pity. For the first time ever the hymn that was sung, "How Firm a Foundation," sunk deep in my heart. *"When thru fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply; the flame shall not hurt thee—I only design thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine."* Through tears I heard myself say, *"Lord, I belong to You! Help me to bring Your healing love to all who are stricken with this awful disease."*

**Next: More Stories from My Young Adult Life - Who Needs God...I'm Self-sufficient!**

