

Does What We Fear Always Come Upon Us?

Many years ago I knew a young man who was an extremely dedicated born-again Christian. He loved God, evangelising, prayer and reading His Word. But he was accidentally killed through an explosion at work. Then later his family were given a Christian book which taught that Christians experience tragedies only because they or their Christian parents yielded to fear at times. The key verse of this book was Job's words in Job 3:25: ***“For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me, and what I dreaded has happened to me.”***

This Christian book said the only reason Job suffered tragedies and sickness was because of fear. Anyone who has studied the Book of Job knows this is ridiculous interpretation. After reading this book, the man's mother suffered condemnation and added grief for a long time. She blamed herself for causing her son's death through her fears.

It is wrong for believers to be afraid (see Psalm 56:3-4, 118:6, Isaiah 41:10 and Hebrews 13:5-6). But to say all tragedies or suffering in our lives is a result of fear is a doctrine of simpletons and Biblical dinosaurs.

Here are some Biblical examples of people being afraid of some tragedy but never experiencing later the same tragedy:

- Abraham was afraid of being killed in Egypt by the Egyptians and by the people of Gerar in their city (see Genesis 12:10-20 and 20:1-13). But he was not killed by anyone. He died a natural death at the age of one hundred and seventy-five years (see Genesis 25:7-8).
- Elijah was afraid of being killed by Queen Jezebel (see 1 Kings 19:1-4). But no one killed Elijah. He was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind (see 2 Kings 2:11).
- The people of Israel were very afraid of being killed by Pharaoh (see Exodus 14:10). But after they cried out to God, He saved them despite their fear.