



The Haitian Earthquake - Could God have Stopped It?

Psalms 46:2-3: (NKJV) *"²Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; ³Though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah."*

Haiti is a small country, with 8-9 million as their population. It shares a small island with the Dominican Republic. Haiti is a poor nation, as a matter of fact, it is the poorest nation in the entire Western Hemisphere. This small and poor nation happens to sit atop a major fault line in the Earth's crust. The recent earthquake in that small and poor nation caused death, destruction and horror the magnitude of which has not even become clear as of yet. Hundreds and hundreds of thousands died and countless hundreds of thousands are homeless, hungry and now subject to the next disasters of the aftermath - disease and starvation. Why? Did this have to happen? Could not the Almighty God, Creator of the Universe, have stopped this disaster and saved all those innocent lives?

Questions for consideration:

1. What caused this earthquake?
2. Did Haiti "deserve" this as some have said?
3. Why didn't God stop it?

1. What caused this earthquake?

Anatomy of Haitian Earthquake Explains Rare 7.0

(Source: Christina Loren CBS4, Miami, Florida)

"The Caribbean is no stranger to seismic activity, but according to Scientists at the University of Miami, devastatingly powerful earthquakes on the Island of Hispaniola are extremely rare. That is why millions of Haitian people were caught off guard when the catastrophic 7.0 earthquake violently shook the earth's crust beneath Haiti. Dr. Christopher Harrison, a UM Professor who studies earthquakes told CBS4, "The frequency of large earthquakes in this particular region will only occur every 100-200 years, the fault that triggered the quake goes through the southern part of Hispaniola and also through Jamaica. It is caused by North America moving to the left with respect to the Caribbean." After the massive quake, the strike slip fault itself shifted. In just weeks UM scientists will have data which will reveal exactly how much the shift changed this fault during the quake. This will help scientists define where earthquakes would likely be triggered on Hispaniola, in the future."

Other points gathered from other articles:

- This particular area is the plate boundary between North America and the Caribbean
- These plates generally only move about an inch each year
- They are moving in opposite directions
- When plate edges lock they build extreme stress
- When they finally let go the ground shook for ten seconds
- Poor building construction and the mountainous region exacerbated the tragedy



Where do we stand now?

(Source: Associated Press Article, January 21, 2010 by Paul Haven and Mike Melia)

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) - "Workers are carving out mass graves on a hillside north of Haiti's capital, using earth-movers to bury 10,000 earthquake victims in a single day while relief workers warn the death toll could increase. Medical clinics have 12-day patient backlogs, untreated injuries are festering and makeshift camps housing thousands of survivors could foster disease, experts said. "The next health risk could include outbreaks of diarrhea, respiratory tract infections and other diseases among hundreds of thousands of Haitians living in overcrowded camps with poor or nonexistent sanitation," said Dr. Greg Elder, deputy operations manager for Doctors Without Borders in Haiti. Hoping to assess the scope of the crisis, World Food Program chief Josette Sheeran planned to visit Haiti on Thursday, as did European Union aid chief Karel De Gucht. The death toll is estimated at 200,000, according to Haitian government figures relayed by the European Commission, with 80,000 buried in mass graves. The commission now estimates 2 million homeless, up from 1.5 million, and says 250,000 are in need of urgent aid..."

The death toll is high and the short term outlook is bleak. While most of us are not in the position to physically go to Haiti, we can donate:

Text Donations

To make an automatic \$10 donation to the Red Cross, text "HAITI" to 90999; the money will be charged directly to your cell phone bill. You can text HAITI to 25383 to give \$5 to the International Rescue Committee.

Clinton Bush Haiti Fund

To contribute, visit the secure online donation page at clintonbushhaitifund.org, or mail a check to: **The Clinton Bush Haiti Fund**, c/o William J. Clinton Foundation, Donations Department, 610 President Clinton Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72201 or **The Clinton Bush Haiti Fund** c/o Communities Foundation of Texas, 5500 Caruth Haven Lane, Dallas, TX 75225 or text "QUAKE" to 20222 to charge a \$10 donation to fund.

2. Did Haiti "deserve" this as some have said?

First, a look at the primary religion of Haiti:

Haitian Vodou or Vaudou (Anglicised as Voodoo) is a religion with an infusion of different beliefs originating from Haiti. It is based upon a merging of the beliefs and practices of West African peoples with Roman Catholic Christianity, brought about as African slaves were brought to Haiti in the 16th century and forced to convert to the religion of their owners, while they largely still followed their traditional African beliefs. The principal belief is that there are various deities, or Lwa (commonly spelled Loa), who are subordinate to a greater God, known as Bondyè, who does not interfere with human affairs. Therefore it is to the Lwa that Vodou worship is directed. Other characteristics of Vodou include veneration of the dead and protection against evil witchcraft.

(Source: "God, Satan, and the Birth of Haiti," Jean R. Gelin, Ph.D., Excerpts from Part One and Part Two)

"The satanic pact allegedly took place at Bois-Caïman near Cap-Haïtien on August 14, 1791 during a meeting organized by several slave leaders, under [Dutty] Boukman's leadership, before launching what would become Haiti's Independence War. This brutal period lasted 13 years until the last survivors of the French expeditionary forces, dispatched to Saint-Domingue with the sole purpose to re-establish slavery, were allowed by Dessalines to leave the island and return to Napoleon. Those who made it safely to France wrote and reported about the utmost bravery and supreme courage of Haiti's indigenous army. A Closer Look At Bois-Caïman: The proponents of the supposed pact continuously refer to the Bois-Caïman gathering as the place where the satanic contract supposedly took place, even in the absence of solid historical evidence save their own prolific imagination. After extensive research on Haiti and several visits to the country, American writer Robert Heintz and his wife Nancy Heintz published in 1978 a



volume on the Haitian revolution that deals with several aspects of Haiti's painful history including the Bois-Caïman meeting. According to these authors, Bookman sought the help of the God of heaven in his prayer, and made no mention whatsoever of a spiritual agreement with Satan. Even though the text shows Bookman was talking to the creator and not the devil, some would still contend that he could not have been really talking to God because - the way they see it - Bookman did not know God as they think they know Him."

Another, much more sensible view, yet with an oversized and nagging question:

(Source: Dr. Robert Jeffress, pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas, for Newsweek)

"God is ultimately responsible for the earthquake in Haiti and has a reason that is beyond our ability, trapped in time, to understand or comprehend. But it would be theological ignorance coupled with absolute arrogance to try and interpret God's actions as a judgment against a particular person or nation."

Now, on to the Scriptures and the main thrust of our conversation today:

Psalms 46:1-7: (NKJV) *"¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. ²Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; ³Though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah ⁴There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High. ⁵God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her, just at the break of dawn. ⁶The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth melted. ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah"*

We can view the use of "mountains" here in both a physical sense and a spiritual sense. Mountains in Bible symbology represent governments.

3. Why didn't God stop it?

The 4 potential views of God related to our world:



1. God is not able to stop disaster and doesn't care to.
2. God is not able to stop disaster though He would like to.
3. God is able to stop disaster and just doesn't want to.
4. God is able to stop disaster and will absolutely stop it.

What do WE believe??? We believe that God is able and will!

Isaiah 55:7-13: (NRSV) *"⁷let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. **This shows us God's Love!** ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. **This shows us God's Wisdom!** ¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, **This shows us God's Justice! (He aligned and set up the world to perpetuate itself)** ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. **This shows us God's Power!** ¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up*



the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." **This shows us God's Plan!**

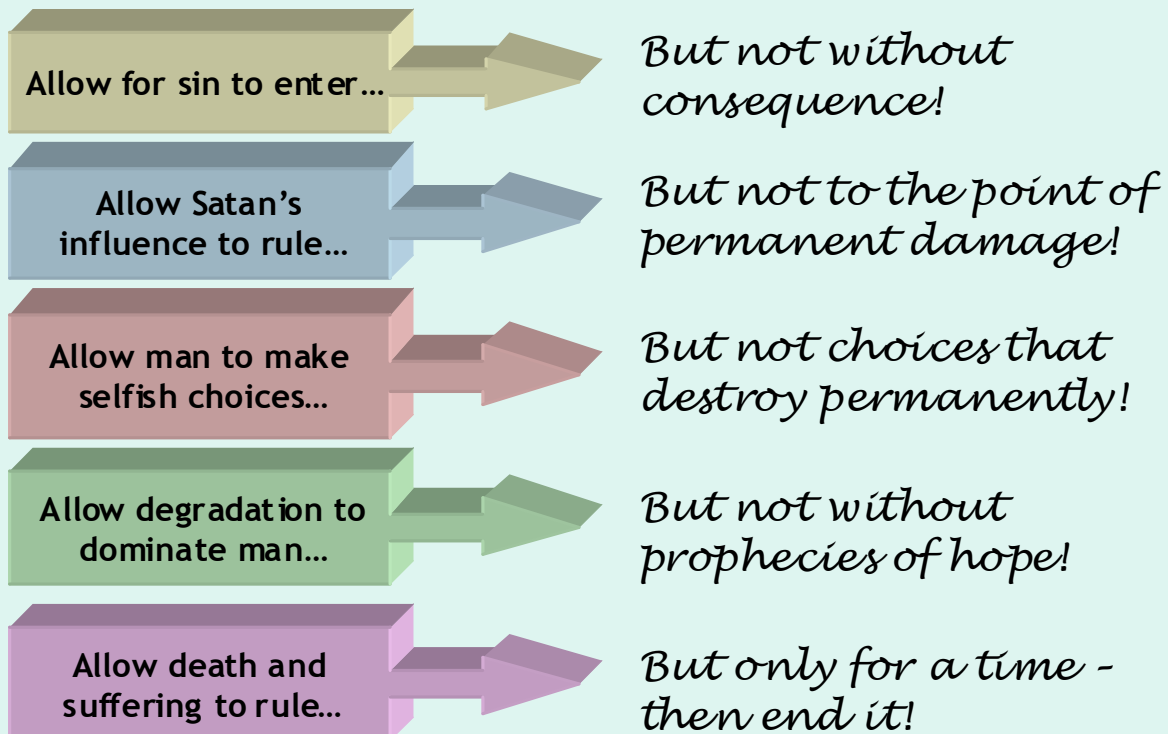
Okay - nice scripture, nice promise and a nice thought, but how does this address the question about God being able but not stopping tragedy? God is not just an uninterested observer of man. The following quote from a book by Dr. Robert Anthony will give us the primary principle of God's approach to our world:

"It helps to realize that an airplane spends 90% of its time in error. We need to take a look at that. If you could see that you could get an airplane from New York to London, even while having been in error ninety percent of the time, maybe you could be less critical of yourself...A sailboat cannot get from where it is to where it wants to be by traveling in a straight line. It has to zigzag. So in terms of true course, it's always in error. What is important about an airplane or a sailboat is that the errors cancel out."

A sailboat makes use of the elements available to get to the destination. An airplane is almost never precisely on target, it takes into consideration wind patterns, the flight plan, etc., but there is a plan that brings it to where it is supposed to go. Getting from Point A to Point B is rarely in a straight line.

The Rules of the Plan

The **apparently** "off course directions" **vs.** The **actual** planned progress:

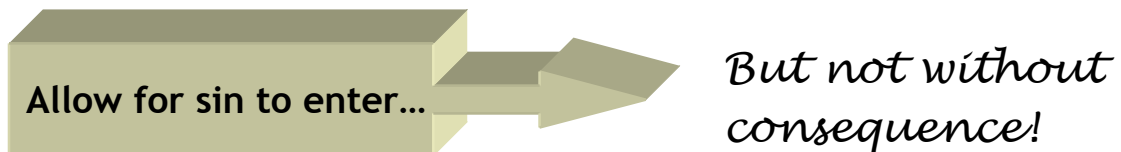




While God's plan does not travel a straight line to get to its end result, and while some of the twists and turns in the process seem to be senseless and counterproductive, the fact that it is God's plan assures us that:

- It will be accomplished!
- It will be on time!
- It will be what He wants!
- It will bless ALL!

Let's follow some of those twists and turns in God's plan and as we do, we will focus on when and how He intervenes and when and how He does *not* intervene.



God did not intervene in the entrance of sin:

Genesis 3:1-7: (NRSV) *"¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'' ²The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves."*

Note that God did not prevent Satan from being in the garden.

Though he did not allow sinners to remain in the garden:

Genesis 3:22-24: (NRSV) *"²²Then the LORD God said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" ²³therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life."*

Where was God? He was there - teaching the most valuable lessons of choice and consequences.



Allow Satan's
influence to rule...

*But not to the point of
permanent damage!*

God did not intervene in the mixing of angelic and human races:

Genesis 6:1-5: (NRSV) *"¹When people began to multiply on the face of the ground, and daughters were born to them, ²the sons of God saw that they were fair; and they took wives for themselves of all that they chose. ³Then the LORD said, "My spirit shall not abide in mortals forever, for they are flesh; their days shall be one hundred twenty years." ⁴The Nephilim were on the earth in those days--and also afterward--when the sons of God went in to the daughters of humans, who bore children to them. These were the heroes that were of old, warriors of renown. ⁵The LORD saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually."*

There was a mixing of the races - angelic and human; this was not acceptable to God as it would have interfered with the outcome of His ultimate plan.

The ruler of this world:

John 12:31-32: (NRSV) *"³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."*

The god of this world:

2 Corinthians 4:3-4: (NRSV) *"³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."*

Another view of this being Satan's world is in the statistics below:

(Source: *"Deaths in Wars and Conflicts in the 20th Century,"* Milton Leitenberg Cornell University, Peace Studies Program, Occasional Paper #29 3rd ed. ©August 2003, 2005, 2006) *"A Beastly Century"*: It was a phrase used by Margaret Drabble, a British novelist, in an address to the Royal Society of Literature in London, on December 14, 2000. But of course it was no more than a human century. In 1994, the historian Eric Hobsbawm wrote that 187 million people were "killed or allowed to die by human decision" in what he called the "short century"--a period of about 75 years from 1914 to 1991. The period chosen by Hobsbawm spanned the beginning of World War I to the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the end of the Soviet occupation of its Eastern European "allies." Given that Hobsbawm is a Marxist historian, his choice of the category "by human decision" was particularly significant. However, the sum that he provided was low by just about 44 million people for the full twentieth century, during which approximately 231 million people died in wars and conflict and, in very large numbers, "by human decision."

When we consider that all of the deaths from all of major natural disasters in all of recorded history add up to somewhere around 10 million people, this view of 100 years of war is sobering.



Allow man to make selfish choices...

But not choices that destroy permanently!

God did not intervene in the desires of Israel to have a King:

1 Samuel 8:4-10: (NRSV) *"⁴Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, ⁵and said to him, 'You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.' ⁶But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, 'Give us a king to govern us.' Samuel prayed to the LORD, ⁷and the LORD said to Samuel, 'Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. ⁸Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. ⁹Now then, listen to their voice; only--you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.' ¹⁰So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king."*

God allowed Israel their choice, though he did monitor and guide their kings:

1 Samuel 15:19-26: (NRSV) *"¹⁹Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do what was evil in the sight of the LORD?" ²⁰Saul said to Samuel, 'I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, I have gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me, I have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. ²¹But from the spoil the people took sheep and cattle, the best of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal.' ²²And Samuel said, 'Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Surely, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams. ²³For rebellion is no less a sin than divination, and stubbornness is like iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has also rejected you from being king.' ²⁴Saul said to Samuel, 'I have sinned; for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. ²⁵Now therefore, I pray, pardon my sin, and return with me, so that I may worship the LORD.' ²⁶Samuel said to Saul, 'I will not return with you; for you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel.'"*

God gave the rule and the people rejected it and wanted to be like everyone else. God allows man to make the selfish choice and they suffer the consequences. God sometimes intervenes and sometimes he doesn't.

The selfishness of man reflects the selfishness of the god of this world - Satan, who sought to be like the Most High himself.

Allow degradation to dominate man...

But not without prophecies of hope!

God did not intervene in the death of Jesus:

Mark 15:9-15: (ASV) *"⁹And Pilate answered them, saying, Will ye that I release unto you the King of the Jews? ¹⁰For he perceived that for envy the chief priests had delivered him up. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the multitude, that he should rather release Barabbas unto*



them. ¹²And Pilate again answered and said unto them, What then shall I do unto him whom ye call the King of the Jews? ¹³And they cried out again, Crucify him. ¹⁴And Pilate said unto them, Why, what evil hath he done? But they cried out exceedingly, Crucify him. ¹⁵And Pilate, wishing to content the multitude, released unto them Barabbas, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified."

Though he did intervene in the timing of Jesus death:

Luke 4:27-30: (NRSV) "²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian. ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way."

God's intervention was such that He didn't stop the death of Jesus, but he did stop it until the proper time. His intervention only went so far to keep the plan exactly and precisely on target.

Not only are there prophecies of hope, there are prophecies of GREAT hope!

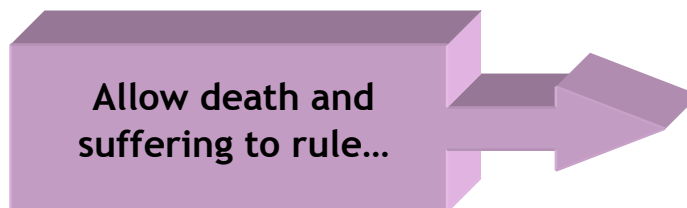
1 Timothy 2:3-6: (KJV) "³For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; ⁴Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the **knowledge** of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; ⁶Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time."

Knowledge: Strong's #1922 epignosis (ep-ig'-no-sis); recognition, i.e. (by implication) full discernment, acknowledgement:

1 Corinthians 15:22: (KJV) "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

Hebrews 2:9: (NRSV) "but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone."

Daniel 2:44-45: (ASV) "⁴⁴And in the days of those kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall the sovereignty thereof be left to another people; but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. ⁴⁵Forasmuch as thou sawest that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure."



But only for a time - then end it!

Trouble will escalate to unimaginable levels:

Mark 13:19-20: (ASV) "¹⁹For those days shall be tribulation, such as there hath not been the like from the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never shall be. ²⁰And except the Lord had shortened the days, no flesh would have been saved; but for the elect's sake, whom he chose, he shortened the days."



The trouble will escalate to almost unimaginable proportions. It is going to get too big, too difficult and seemingly too far off course.

Yet the time is coming when even death is destroyed:

Revelation 20:12-14: (ASV) *"¹²And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne; and books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of the things which were written in the books, according to their works. ¹³And the sea gave up the dead that were in it; and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. ¹⁴And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, even the lake of fire."*

God allows free will to exist, which brings us to different end results in our lives. Jesus paying the ransom price allows that all will "die in Adam" but "all will be made alive in Christ." Where's the free will in that? We did not choose to be born in sin. However, we live and have our free will under the auspices of sin. As we didn't choose to be born in sin, we also have the opportunity - choice or not - to be resurrected in Christ. Then Judgment day puts our experiences to the test to see what we have learned. By the end of Judgment Day, those who do not follow through will end up in the position of what the Scriptures refer to as "second death." So the plan is not at the expense of free will, it actually compliments free will.

From trouble comes Peace on Earth:

Isaiah 11:1-9: (NRSV) *"¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea."*

Notice this prophecy states *the earth* will be filled with knowledge of the Lord and peace.

From trouble comes prosperity:

Micah 4:1-5: (KJV) *"¹But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. ²And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ³And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁴But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth*





of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it. ⁵ For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever."

From trouble, comes perfection:

Isaiah 11:9: (KJV) "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."

God does not allow things haphazardly. Tragedies like these are allowed to happen because they are under Satan's permitted rule. God also allows mankind to kill 230 million of our own based on our own "wisdom." Human wisdom doesn't have the ability to look forward as God does.

Specifically to Haiti, God could have stopped the earthquake and chose not to, because it was part of a larger plan in which He will stop these kinds of things forever. He allows sin and degradation and hurt and death to exist and to continue for a time. It is part of the process of the allowing of sin to have its way, so in the resurrection, all can be changed. Each of the Haitian people will be resurrected in the Kingdom.

*So could God have stopped the Haitian earthquake?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!*

For Your Continued Study:



Observations about God and his permitting tragedy upon the earth:

- It is temporary;
- It has a purpose - to display the sorrow and hopelessness of sin and death;
- It reveals the folly of life under the rule of Satan;
- It leads to the end of this order of things;
- It opens the door to the new order.

From trouble comes purity:

Zephaniah 3:8-9: (NRSV) "⁸Therefore wait for me, says the LORD, for the day when I arise as a witness. For my decision is to gather nations, to assemble kingdoms, to pour out upon them my indignation, all the heat of my anger; for in the fire of my passion all the earth shall be consumed. ⁹At that time I will change the speech of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them may call on the name of the LORD and serve him with one accord."

From trouble comes unity:

Zechariah 8:20-23: (KJV) "²⁰Thus saith the LORD of hosts; It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities: ²¹And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts: I will go also. ²²Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD. ²³Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you."



Revelation 21:1-4: (KJV) *"¹And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. ²And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. ⁴And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."*

Why? Jesus! That's why!!

Romans 5:18-19: (NRSV) *"¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous."*