

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1301: Can We Be Content With Chaos?

<https://christianquestions.com/society/1301-chaos/>

See:  CQ Rewind
SHOW NOTES

1. Does “chaos” always mean random, unpredictable disorder? Explain. What is “deterministic chaos”? What is “planned chaos”? How does creation illustrate “God’s planned chaos”? (Genesis 1:1-5)
2. How does “God’s permitted chaos” differ from “God’s planned chaos”? Does God use natural disasters and epidemics for His glory? Where is God in the chaos that grips this world, and why can’t we see Him at work? (Habakkuk 1:1-4)
3. Where does the chaos that affects our lives come from? What are our choices in dealing with it? What was the Apostle Paul’s secret to rejoicing despite chaos and prison in his life? Paul recognized what was behind God’s permitted chaos in his life. What was that? (Philippians 4:10-13)
4. Explain the chaos in each of the following events and the solutions to diffusing the apostle’s reaction to it:
 - a. The storm on the Sea of Galilee: Mark 4:37-41
 - b. The arrest of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane: Luke 22:47-53, Mark 14:44, Matthew 26:49-56, John 18:4-12
5. How can we diffuse the chaos we intentionally and unintentionally cause?
 - a. Paul and Barnabas in Iconium: how did they diffuse the chaos they caused?
 - b. Paul and Barnabas in Lystra: how did human emotions and crowd mentality play into chaos? (Acts 14:11-20)
 - c. What is an effective technique for dealing with these emotions?
6. Philippians 3:7-8 – What have you counted as loss for the sake of Christ?
 - (Acts 6:8-15) Stephen’s death illustrated what about chaos? What is a modern example of this?
 - What questions should we ask ourselves if we are causing or receiving chaos?
7. Philippians 3:9-11 – Are you contributing to the chaos around you? What principles are driving your actions?
 - How did Jesus contribute to God’s permitted chaos? Why might he have done this? (Matthew 21:12-13)
8. “God’s permitted chaos” brings “God’s perfect kingdom”:
In each set of scriptures below, identify the chaos and then the promise of the kingdom.
 - a. Daniel 12:1 and 2:44 – how do you handle the thought of this chaos? Does Revelation 13:8 help?
 - b. Psalms 46:1-3, 9-11 – why does this chaos seem familiar today? How do verses 9-11 soothe the chaos in your thoughts?
 - c. How do the words, *Cease striving, Press on, I have set my face like a flint, Selah*, give you comfort and guide your reactions? Explain. (Philippians 3:12-14, Isaiah 50:6-7)
9. Was Habakkuk afraid of the chaos God revealed to him in Habakkuk 3:12-16? Describe his reaction. What was his attitude in verses 17-19? How could he react like this?
10. What is the biggest comfort you take away from this episode? If we cannot diffuse the chaos around us, what should we do to conquer our panic? (Revelation 21:1-4)