

#8 Life's Unanswered Questions

In the summer of 1864, while the Forty-ninth Tennessee Regiment was worshipping in a Georgia woods. Chaplain James McNeilly was leading the meeting when a stray bullet from a battle in a another location passed through the head of one of the worshipers and lodged in the chest of another. The soldiers stopped singing when they saw the man die with the bullet in his head. Then they attended to the man who suffered a chest wound.



This incident made the soldiers think about eternity and the mystery of life and death. Why didn't God save the faithful? How did he allow this to happen during a worship service?

Life can be full of unanswered questions concerning God's intervention and providential care for us. Suffering and death are mysteries to us. Until we reach our eternal home, we will never have all the answers to the questions of human suffering. However, we can take comfort in knowing that when we Christians suffer patiently, we are most like our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many Christians during the Civil War resigned themselves to the providence of God in their affairs. When things happen they could not understand, they knew that the Lord was in control.

Sadly, we do not have the chaplain's words to his men after this incident, but he may have told them that God's ways are higher than our ways and His thoughts than our thoughts. We cannot know why God allows such tragedies to happen, but we know that He never makes a mistake.

Romans 11:13

"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!"

Prayer

"O Lord when things happen in my life that I can not understand why they happen, please help me to remember that you never leave me nor fore sake me and that You are still in control. Please help me to understand the lessons You want me to learn and thank you for loving me enough to provide a way of salvation and for not leaving me, especially in times of trouble."