

Bad Times Good God

NOVEMBER 5 - DECEMBER 4





LIFEGROUPS

Series: Bad Times, Good God

Bible Focus: Habakkuk 2:4-20

Date: Nov. 19 & 20, 2016

—[LET'S TALK]—

- What is your favorite way to relax?

—[CHOOSE 1 SIDE]—

—[LET'S WARM UP]—

- Do you think most people truly believe they have evil desires? Why or why not?
- What do you think is the root of evil in the world?

—[LET'S WARM UP]—

- What are some common idols and false gods you see in our culture today?
- How easy is it to fall into idolatry or worshipping a false god? Why?

—[LET'S DIG]—

- Read Romans 3:9-31 and discuss owning up to your contribution to evil.
 1. Why does Paul feel the need to devote nearly a whole chapter to pointing out, "There is no one righteous..."?
 2. What issue(s) in his audience might also be in our culture today?
 3. How does it help us and the world when we display the humility of owning up to our contribution to evil in the world?
 4. What gives us the courage to do this?

—[LET'S DIG]—

- Read Isaiah 44:6-20 and discuss idolatry's role in bad times.
 1. Do idols truly deliver their promise? If not, why do we make them?
 2. How does idolatry contribute to the woes we see in the world?
 3. What do you notice about the making of an idol (verses 12-14)?
 4. How does this compare to the making of modern (usually non-physical) idols?

—[LET'S ACT]—

- Let God be your glory. Make a list of your three greatest achievements so far. Then try to list how God and other people were involved in enabling you to reach those goals. Now think of a current life goal you have. Think of some ways you could clearly give God glory both in the process of reaching that goal, and after you've achieved success.



—[**SERMON REVIEW**]—

- Extra scriptures referenced: [Ps 94:3]
- Consider the question: Who or what is the source of evil in the world?
- The source of the Babylonians' evil was pride, fame, and power.
- We all seek pride, fame, and power to some degree. We want these things because deep down we want to be wanted. We want to be loved. We think pride, fame, and power deliver that for us. Of course, only God can truly provide the love we need.
- But when it comes to evil and pride, we are all tempted to point our fingers at someone else or some other group. We feel the source of evil is outside of ourselves and we blame others.
- Pride comes from within us. We (you and I) are the source of evil in this world. It's not those people over there, the gays, the politicians, the abortionist, the terrorist, the refugee, the illegal, the conservative, the evangelical; no, it's me and it's you.
- What's wrong with this world is over seven billion of us are trying to use each other for our own glory. The only way we will ever be truly satisfied is when we let God's glory be our glory.

—[**NOTES**]—
