

## Repent or Perish! Luke 13:1-9

### INTRODUCTION

Calamity. *Dictionary.com* provides the following definitions:

1. a great misfortune or disaster, as a flood or serious injury.
2. grievous affliction; adversity; misery:  
*the calamity of war.*

When calamity strikes, questions quickly follow: ***what does it mean? And if there's a God, why does it happen? What about all those innocent lives lost? Is there a message in calamity? What is the message of calamity?***

For the answer, we turn to God's word. Please turn in your Bible to Luke 13:1-9. Taking our cue from the verses we read, let's glean four important truths concerning the message of calamity and end our study with practical lessons (take-aways) from recent events in the Middle East.

**I. Calamity reminds us that we live in a \_\_\_\_\_ world.**

Human suffering is produced from two different sources, both of which Jesus addresses in Luke 13.

- We live in a world full of \_\_\_\_\_ evil
- We live in a world of \_\_\_\_\_ evil.

**II. Calamity reminds us that \_\_\_\_\_ is unrelated to \_\_\_\_\_**

**III. Calamity \_\_\_\_\_ God's message:**

- Jesus' point implies that one's relationship with God and their eternal future is far more important than the circumstances of one's death on earth in this lifetime.

IV. Calamity reminds us that God's \_\_\_\_\_ should  
not be taken for \_\_\_\_\_

**Every human being walks in this world under the sentence of death.** Every human being has violated God and His holiness. The very fact that we are allowed to live from moment to moment is because of His grace. God's grace and mercy and patience are designed to lead us to repentance. However, they can lead instead to a hardened heart, whereby we begin to presume upon His grace and take it for granted. We lose our capacity to be surprised by Him. **So, when a tragedy befalls us, or calamity enters our world, we turn in anger to the Lord God of glory, who fills our lives with grace and mercy every day.**

**CONCLUSION**

1. Don't forget that the \_\_\_\_\_ of possessions  
is \_\_\_\_\_
2. Recognize the nature of \_\_\_\_\_:  
\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_
3. Marvel at the nature of God's \_\_\_\_\_:  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Don't forget about the \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
or you will \_\_\_\_\_

Repentance is a change of mind that brings a change of action. It is both intellectual and volitional—and then, though not necessarily, emotional. Repentance is a real turnaround of one's life in respect to sinful conduct.

*Think of it in this way:*

To repent is to \_\_\_\_\_

To repent is also to be \_\_\_\_\_

To repent is to \_\_\_\_\_ our ways

In the verses we studied, we encountered calamity...a temple calamity (a terrible atrocity), a tower calamity (a tragic accident) but the ultimate calamity comes from the lips of Jesus: *"unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."*