

## **Recent events in Orlando Florida**

There is no doubt, we live in a sad, fallen world. The recent horrific terrorist attack in Orlando Florida reveals the reality of our sin-cursed world.

The terrorist who carried out the shooting in Orlando will have to answer to God for his own murderous sins. The writer of Hebrews says that *it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment* (Hebrews 9:27).

But this recent attack is only one of numerous bad things that happen all the time in this world, and bad things happen because we live in a sin-cursed world, and it is entirely our fault.

God created everything in six days. On the sixth day, He created man. *“Then God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness,”* (Genesis 1:26).

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. At the end of the sixth day of Creation Week, God completed His creative activity. It was a perfect creation. *“Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good,”* (Genesis 1:31). This included mankind.

So what happened? In the perfect paradise, God was in control, just as He is today. He was in authority, and He established rules. Adam and Eve were told not to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. *“The Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die,’”* (Genesis 2:16-17).

So Adam and Eve were given a choice. Obey and live. Disobey and die.

We know the story. *“So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate,”* (Genesis 3:6).

Man’s disobedience, his sin, brought death and suffering into the world. God’s perfect creation was broken. *“For we know that the whole creation groans and labours with birth pangs together until now,”* the Apostle Paul says, (Romans 8:22).

Sin has broken our world. The pain, suffering, and death that we see are the results of that sin. Man chose to disobey God, and the suffering we see and experience is a consequence of that rebellion against our Creator.

Many people ask, “Why doesn’t God just wipe away all evil?” Well, God certainly could take away all evil, but in the process we would be gone along with it. After all, we are not good. We are all sinners. Every person descended from Adam and Eve. Each one of us has a sinful nature and has sinned by breaking God’s rules.

We are all sinners. It is our rebellion that broke God’s creation and brought suffering into the world. Sin must be judged. That is just and right.

However, our God is not only the righteous Judge, He is also a God of love. Even before the foundation of the world, God had a plan.

Jesus Christ would be born into this world that we might be redeemed. He would be that perfect sacrifice and take our sin upon Himself on the Cross at Calvary. He defeated death so we could spend eternity in heaven if we repent of our sin and put our faith and trust in Him.

Yes, our world is broken. The trials and suffering we experience often seem too much to bear. But our time on earth is just the blink of an eye compared to an eternity in heaven.

The groaning of the world around us and the grief that afflicts each of us is an ever-present reminder of the horrible price of sin. But Jesus Christ paid that price on the Cross and rose from the dead in victory. Never forget the hope that we have in Christ.