



**Did God *cause* it, or did He just *allow* it?**

**Did God *cause* it, or does He just *use* evil  
circumstances caused by others?**

# ***The Cause of Calamity***

**Amos 3:6, Ephesians 1:11, Isaiah  
46:10, Genesis 50:20, et al.**

A blurred background image of a park with a pond and trees. The text is overlaid on this image.

**December 7, 1941**

**September 11, 2001**



**“God had nothing to do with that!”**

# **Reasons people give for “limiting” the scope of God’s sovereignty ...**

- A. You make God the author of sin.**
- B. You undermine the Bible’s teaching about free will & human responsibility.**
- C. You undercut the love & compassion of God.**



**“God did not *cause* this calamity,  
but He can *use* it for good.”**



**1. To say that God does not cause calamity is contradicted by the express teaching of the Scriptures.**

## **Ephesians 1:11**

**“In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.”**

## Acts 4:27-28

**“For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, 28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.”**

## Isaiah 46:10

**“Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.”**



**1. To say that God does not cause calamity is contradicted by the express teaching of the Scriptures.**

## **Genesis 50:20**

**“But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.”**

- 1. To say that God does not cause calamity is contradicted by the express teaching of the Scriptures.**
- 2. To say that God does not cause calamity undermines the source of hope that God's sovereignty ought to provide.**