



I-35W Bridge Collapse

Where were you August 1st 2007?

God is so Good! WOW

- Greg
- Jim
- Jeanne
- Dave
- Mark and Austin
- Teen Challenge
-

But....

- 5 Dead and 8 missing
- Sherry Engebretson
- Asian mom and Downs Son
- Pregnant Sadiyah and her son

Why God?
What are you thinking?



Four lessons from
 the Collapse
 of the I 35 W Bridge



Lesson 1: That could have been you!

- Luke 13:4 - 5

4Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them--do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

- That could have been you.
 Repent and trust in Jesus because you too will perish.

Lesson 2: The Problem of Evil

- The book of Job and Psalm 10

It is ok to wrestle with this question?
 -If God is sovereign and good why does He allow things like this?

The Problem of Evil

1. God is real, totally sovereign and good. God is love.
2. God created beings in His image, with the ability to create.
3. These beings created evil.
4. God now works with evil in the equations. Evil will not foil His overall plan.

Gods will is unstoppable – it marches thru time to its predestined end.

Creation fall flood nations Israel the Cross the Church Age Trib Millennium Eternity

"in all things God works for the good of those who love him"

Julia Blackhawk, 32, Savage

For years, Julia Blackhawk told family members she dreamed of one day becoming a cosmetologist. Blackhawk was finally on her way to making that dream come true.

Blackhawk, a 32-year-old single mother raising two sons, was believed to be returning from classes at the Aveda Institute in Minneapolis when the bridge fell Wednesday, said her former husband, Khaffak Ansari.

She leaves behind her sons Xavier, 7, and Adarro, 12.

"She was so excited about (classes)," said Ansari, owner of Stryker Avenue Food in St. Paul. "That was her lifetime dream."

The two met six years ago while she was living in St. Paul and were married for a year.

Ansari remembered Blackhawk, a Winnebago Indian, as a woman "strong in her convictions, strong in her traditions."

He spent most of Thursday near the bridge, contemplating her life. He said he planned to be up all night preparing for her funeral, which will be held this weekend in Nebraska, where her family lives.

"God can be so cruel sometimes," he said.

- Fred Melo

I hope this bridge is safe?



Gary Markstein – Copley News Service

Lesson 3: Our world is fallen.

- I 35W Bridge is our Tower of Babel
- Its fall has undermined our faith in our technology.

Lesson 4: The Cross helps us trust God in suffering

- Before Pilate, at the beatings, on the cross and in the tomb...
... wouldn't you ask –
God why? What are you thinking?

Conclusion

- Let us be reminded that we too will perish, live as though this is our last day.
- It is OK to question God, to wrestle with the problem evil brings into our world.
- Let us be reminded that our hope is not in human technology.
- Learn from the cross – God turns evil into good

Surrender

■ Job 42

Then Job replied to the Lord:

2^I know that you can do all things;
no plan of yours can be thwarted.

3^{You} asked, "Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?"
Surely I spoke of things I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me to know.

4^{You} said, "Listen now, and I will speak;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me."

5^{My} ears had heard of you
but now my eyes have seen you.

6^{Therefore} I despise myself
and repent in dust and ashes."