Unhappiness, Sin's By-Product

By Tony Melton

A man once told me he could not understand why God took his wife. Then he proceeded to say that his wife was killed in a tragic automobile accident. She and some of her friends were drinking and the driver lost control of the car.

We should not blame God for the sorrow and misery we experience and see in this life. In the beginning, man lived in paradise—in a state of perfect happiness and joy. Then Adam and Eve violated God's commandment, thus bringing sin into the world. God told Eve, "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children . . . . Then to Adam He said, . . . Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:16-18).

We understand by this that unhappiness, sorrow and death are results of sin. The apostle Paul wrote, "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned" (Roman 5:12).   It is true that not every illness or accident is the direct result of a specific sin; nevertheless, it is because of sin that death, disease, war and immorality contaminate the world in which we live. Sin (disobedience to God) is what produces unhappiness and sorrow.

Today, we realize that only death can free us from this sin-cursed world, but Jesus Christ can free us from the bondage of sin. Jesus died to give us freedom from sin. That is the good news or the gospel of Christ. Jesus said that he who believes the gospel and is baptized shall be saved (Mark 16:16).