

Thursday, May 3, 2012

WITHERINGTON, DEATH, GOD AND EVIL

Ben Witherington, Professor of NT at Asbury Seminary and prolific author lost his daughter to a sudden pulmonary embolism last January and has written several pieces and an entire e-book about his (and his family's) experience and grief- all within a couple of months. So they are very fresh, honest, emotional, painful and inspiring. These articles challenged me to probe my own thinking on the subject of tragic or unexpected death again. This is related to the debate about Theodicy [if God is Good and All Powerful, how come He doesn't prevent Evil? He must not be Good or He must not be All Powerful]. But the unexpected death of Witherington's daughter does not turn him from or against God or to deny His existence. On the contrary. He affirms his complete faith in God and His goodness. Here are excerpts from an article Witherington posted and my response to it and to a version published in the April edition of CT. My purpose is to clarify my own thinking and faith, not to criticize Professor Witherington the person or father, who has my respect; but I do wrestle with his beliefs and disagree with what he writes about Calvinism and what he says it teaches about God. The Professor says-
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Posted by Cal in Christian Living at 18:43