

life.

Our Lord Jesus Christ bore the penalty for those whose sins are laid upon Him. This is predicted in type, symbol, and statement in the Old Testament, and then is fulfilled and described in the New Testament. Those who believe on Him are chastised on this earth, not as a punishment for their sins but as a means of bringing them to ~~perceive~~ proceed more rapidly with the work of sanctification and helping them to turn their thoughts away from the things that would turn them from the will of God.

The teaching in the Old Testament that the Israelites could not yet go into the land of Canaan for the Amorites, the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full, but that after 400 years they would return and go in and God would wipe out the Amorites before them, would suggest that a time comes when a nation becomes so wicked that God will wipe it off the face of the earth for ^{its} ~~their~~ sins. This would seem to be fulfilled in the conquest of Canaan by the Israelites. Just how widely this principle could be extended is difficult to say for we have no way of telling when the iniquity of a nation is full. Actually, the greatest iniquity often is that which is not seen to the eye of the ordinary human being. One man engages in vile sin, another man abstains from that which appears bad to the human being, but has a heart full of pride and rebellion against God. Surely the second of the two is the worst. But man is incapable of judging this. Therefore, when it comes to deciding just what is an instance of God's punishment for sin within this life, we need a clear statement of God's Word before being able to draw a specific conclusion. We know that most judgments as punishment for sin takes place in the next life rather than in this.

It would ~~w~~ seem then that we can say that, as a rule, that--we notice of course that all suffering is the result of sin. All the pain, misery and fear. However, my sin causes pain to others and their sin produces pain that comes to me. We do not suffer in this life, as a rule, as a result of our own sins. In some cases we do.