

Good Luck or BAD LUCK?

Many people are quick to label an occurrence in their lives as luck, an event determined by chance. And virtually all of the time, it is described as either good luck or bad luck, depending on how we judge the circumstance to impact us. But how do we know at the moment whether what happened is good or bad for us? Subsequent actions or conditions may prove the opposite of the original assessment.

A classic Chinese story illustrates this point.

Many years ago, there was a man who had a horse and one son. One day, his horse broke out of the corral and fled to the freedom of the hills. "Your horse got out? What bad luck!" said his neighbors.



"Why?" the man said. "How do you know it's bad luck?"

Sure enough, the next night the horse came back to his familiar corral for his usual feeding and watering, leading 12 wild stallions with him! The farmer's son saw the 13 horses in the corral, slipped out, and locked the gate. Suddenly, he had 13 horses instead of one. The neighbors heard the good news and came chattering to the farmer, "Oh, you have 13 horses! What good luck!"



The man answered, "How do you know it's good luck?"

Some days later, his strong young son was trying to break one of the wild stallions, only to be thrown off and break a leg. The neighbors came back that night and passed another hasty judgment: "Your son broke his leg? What bad luck!"

The wise father answered again, "How do you know it's bad luck?"

Sure enough, a few days later, a warlord came through town and conscripted every able-bodied young man, taking them off to war, never to return again. But the young man was saved because of his broken leg.

The story is filled with wisdom. Luck? Because we cannot see into the future, it is better for us to put our trust in the One Who holds the future.

– Beecher Hunter