

If God Is Good, Why Is There Evil?

Part 1

Pastor Ken Ritz * July 19, 2020 * New Life Vineyard Church

Power, O God, belongs to you; unfailing love, O Lord, is yours.
Psalm 62:11-12 NLT

God uses _____ throughout the bible to draw attention to his power.

Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord and I will not let Israel go."
Exodus 5:2

"Get out, you and your Israelites! Leave my country; go and worship the LORD, as you asked. Take your sheep, goats, and cattle, and leave. Also pray for a blessing on me."
Exodus 12:31-32 GN

When Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life...

When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"
Matthew 27:50-54

Creation Story: Genesis 1:1-25

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. Genesis 1:31

When God created this earth, and he had it just the way he wanted it, it was _____, just the way we all want it to be now.

And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil..."
Genesis 2:16-17

When Adam and Eve fell, they gained knowledge of good and evil, a source of terrible frustration ever since.

Because God is perfectly good, He could not ignore sin, but had to bring _____.

Then he said to the woman, "I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy, and in pain you will give birth. And you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you."
And to the man he said, "Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, the ground is cursed because of you. All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it. It will grow thorns and thistles for you..."
Genesis 3:16-19

God's judgment for sin covered everything under Adam and Eve's authority, even a "curse" on the earth. This curse means that nature no longer operates the way it was designed to.