

GOD'S SOLUTION FOR EVIL

IF GOD IS GOOD, WHY IS THERE EVIL? PART 2

Pastor Ken Ritz * July 30, 2020 * New Life Vineyard Church

Review from last week:

God is perfectly loving and good... so good that when sin entered the world, he knew the devastating impact of sin on his creation, so he judged it severely,

When God had the world just the way he wanted it, it was also the way we want it, the way we wish it was now, and the way we dream of it being. It was perfect, and all creation, including the weather, was in harmony and peace.

When sin entered the world, it brought with it death, disease, suffering and sorrow. God judged everything that was under mankind's authority, which encompassed the whole planet, and included even the ground, tectonic plates and volcanoes, and weather.

Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

Romans 8:20-22 NLT

"Creation was subjected to God's curse," and is still _____ from the pain of it.

If we think God over-reacted, or judged too harshly, it is because we underestimate

- **God's goodness and holiness**
- **the significance of our sin to a holy God**
- **the devastation on God's creation caused by sin**

After sin entered the world, God immediately went to work to take care of the consequences of the problem that _____.

"The first man, Adam, became a living person." But the last Adam—that is, Christ—is a life-giving Spirit.

1 Corinthians 15:45-46 NLT

For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:15-16 NLT

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

... Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death."

Matthew 26:36-38

I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"

Revelation 21:2-4

One day God is going to _____ creation so it is no longer under the curse, and restore it to perfection as on the day he first made it.