

Why Did God Let It Happen?

Ever Wonder Why? Part 1

Nathaniel Sorensen * October 29, 2023 * New Life Vineyard Church

Epicurus

S1: If God is not able to prevent evil, then God must not be all-powerful.

S2: If God is not willing to prevent evil, then He must not be all good.

Q: If God is both willing and able to prevent evil, then why does evil exist?

The Christian faith _____ into this reality in a way that is most _____ with human experience

God is indeed good to Israel, to the pure in heart. But as for me, my feet almost slipped; my steps nearly went astray...

The wicked say, "How can God know? Does the Most High know everything?" Look at them – the wicked! They are always at ease, and they increase their wealth.

Did I purify my heart and wash my hands in innocence for nothing? For I am afflicted all day long and punished every morning.

Psalm 73:1-2, 11-14

PART 1 – If it's possible to _____, it's also possible to _____.

PART 2 – The question of _____.

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, because I came from God and I am here. For I didn't come on My own, but He sent Me... You are of your father the Devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires.

John 8:42-44

So he took Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. The Devil said to Him, "I will give You their splendor and all this authority, because it has been given over to me, and I can give it to anyone I want. If You, then, will worship me, all will be Yours."

And Jesus answered him, "It is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only."

Luke 4:5-8

God shows His _____ in that He chose to _____.

He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:21

Jesus is the beginning of the end of the _____.

"You made [Jesus] lower than the angels for a short time; You crowned him with glory and honor and subjected everything under his feet." For in subjecting everything to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. As it is, we do not yet see everything subjected to him.

Hebrews 2:7-8

For the creation eagerly waits with anticipation for God's sons to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to futility – not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it – in the hope that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage of corruption into the glorious freedom of God's children. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together with labor pains until now. And not only that, but we ourselves who have the Spirit as the firstfruits – we also groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

Romans 8:19-23

We live now in a time of _____.

The Lord does not delay His promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9

God's answer to our confusion and hurt is, "I am _____."

When I tried to understand all this, it seemed hopeless, until I entered God's sanctuary...My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart, my portion forever.

Psalm 73:17

* All scriptures from HCSB unless otherwise noted