

# The Problem of Evil

# The Truth about Evil

# What is the Problem?

- People hurt and suffer ... they see hurt and suffering.
- Their pain causes them to argue or hate, not repent.
- Their pain causes them to argue or hate, not trust God.
- They bark against God by blaming or questioning Him.
- They argue against God's existence or the Bible's truth.

# What is Evil?

- For this study it is bad people or events causing pain.
- It is the anguish, disappointment, and trouble of life.
- It is destructive disasters of nature and events by men.
- It is torment and trouble that afflict many or a few.
- It is corruption, hatred, torture, and violence to men.













Atheists hate God and Christianity  
and use evil in the world  
to oppose them.

Arminians, by presuming God's  
love of all men, are confused  
about evil in the world.

# **Four Spiritual Laws**

## **1. LAW ONE**

**God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.**

## **2. LAW TWO**

**Man is sinful and separated from God. Therefore, he can not know and experience God's love and plan for his life.**

## **3. LAW THREE**

**Jesus Christ is God's ONLY provision for man's sin. Through Him you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life.**

## **4. LAW FOUR**

**We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.**

# Here Is Their Problem (1)

- God is great (so say Christians).
- God is good (so say Christians).
- Evil is painfully real (all feel it and see it).
- They cannot reconcile these ... they reject one or more.
- Their only response is to attack God and the Bible.

## Here Is Their Problem (2)

- An all-powerful, all-good God would abolish all evil.
- So ... God is either not all-powerful or not all-good.
- Most men do not allow such pain, why does God?
- Even atheists treat children and neighbors better.
- Therefore, the Christian religion and Bible are nuts!

# They Say ... God Does Not Exist (1)

- This is their “logical” solution to a faulty equation.
- Natural man uses any excuse/reason to get rid of God.
- *But ... we know God exists by creation and providence.*
- *And by conscience, scripture, internal witness of Spirit.*
- *If no God ... life is hopeless and without any meaning.*

# They Say ... God Does Not Exist (2)

- *But we say, Atheism is not the answer.*
- *We totally deny their radically illogical conclusion.*
- *Our evidence trumps theirs as light trumps darkness.*
- *It takes more faith to be an atheist than a Christian.*
- *So we say, Atheism is not the answer.*

# They Say ... God Is Not All-Powerful (1)

- For those believing God exists ... He cannot stop evil!
- God is not responsible for evil because He can't stop it.
- God is off in the distance ... watching ... Deistic-like.
- *If God cannot cure evil ... then he cannot save from sin!*
- *If God is that weak ... He cannot really help us at all!*

# They Say ... **God Is Not All-Powerful (2)**

- *But we say, Divine impotence is no answer.*
- *An impotent God is not much better than no God!*
- *We know God is all-powerful by a little look up!*
- *We know God is all-powerful by a little Bible reading!*
- *We know God is all-powerful by changing our lives!*

# They Say ... God Is Not All-Good (1)

- If a powerful God exists ... He must be evil Himself.
- They say God is malicious for allowing evil and pain.
- This is consistent with most gods man has invented.
- *If God is evil, how could we love or worship as we do?*
- *If God is evil, why would we love or worship as we do?*

# They Say ... God Is Not All-Good (2)

- *But we say, An evil God is no answer.*
- *An evil God is worse than no God!*
- *We would live in terror every day of Him sending evil!*
- *We call it blasphemy and see His goodness every day!*
- *We know God is good ... but owes good to no sinner.*

# They Say ... Evil Is Not Real (1)

- If God is great and good ... then evil does not exist.
- Hard to imagine anyone thinking this? ... *think again!*
- Eastern religions teach it in various ways and degrees.
- Others ... evil is illusory; look correctly, it will disappear.
- Christian Science and Scientology get rid of evil as well.

## They Say ... Evil Is Not Real (2)

- *But we say, Denying reality is no answer.*
- *You can feel, see, and hear the stark reality of evil.*
- *The pictures in this presentation are little hints of it.*
- *If there is no evil, as they say, why any need for God?*
- *So we say, Denying reality is your own evil.*

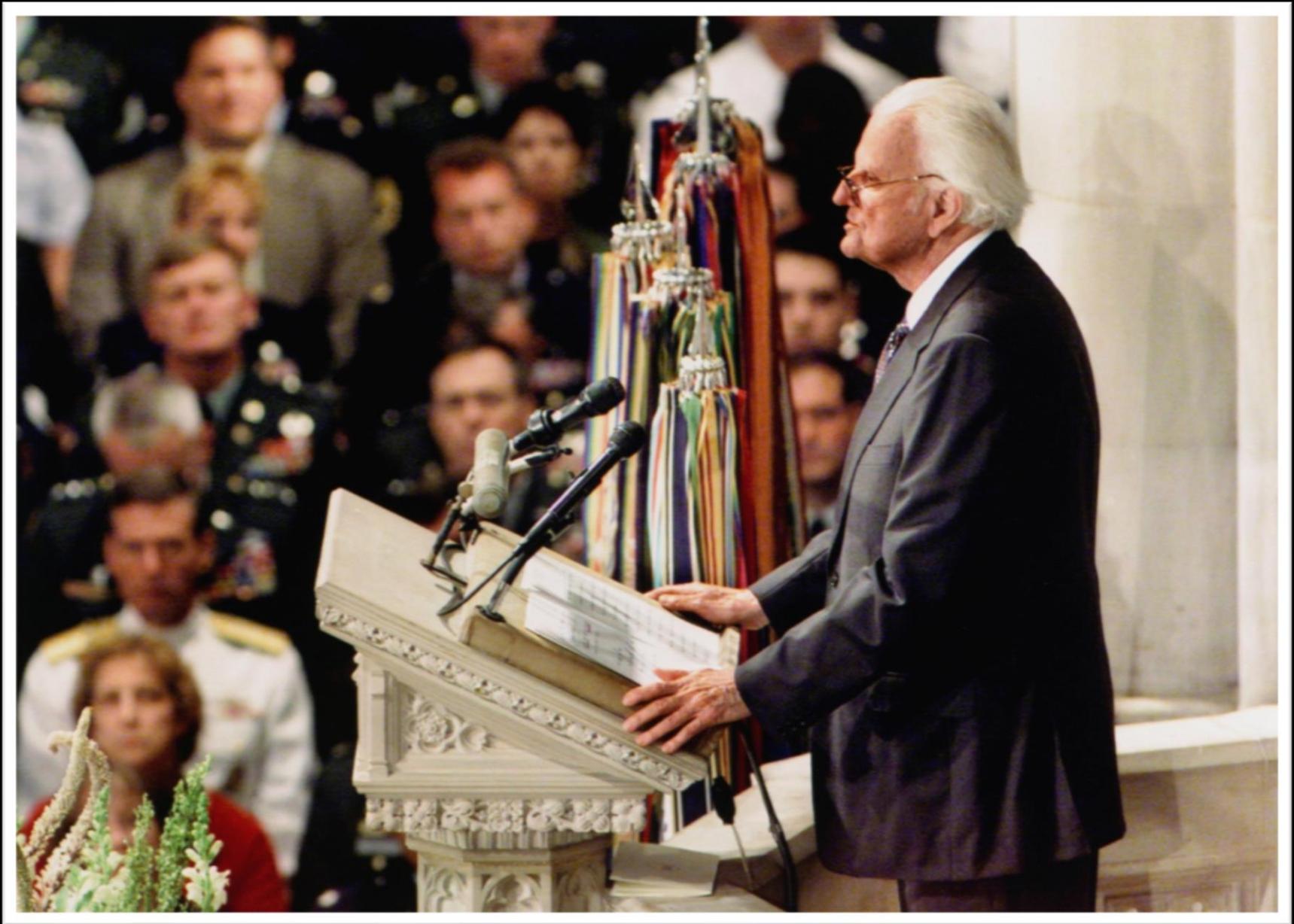
# What Is the Answer?

- It is NOT atheism – *no God*.
- It is NOT divine impotence – *no All-Powerful God*.
- It is NOT divine evil – *no All-Good God*.
- It is NOT denying evil – *as if it does not exist*.
- It is NOT calling it a mystery – there is a great answer!

The following examples are hard  
to watch and hear, for the  
ignorance is great.



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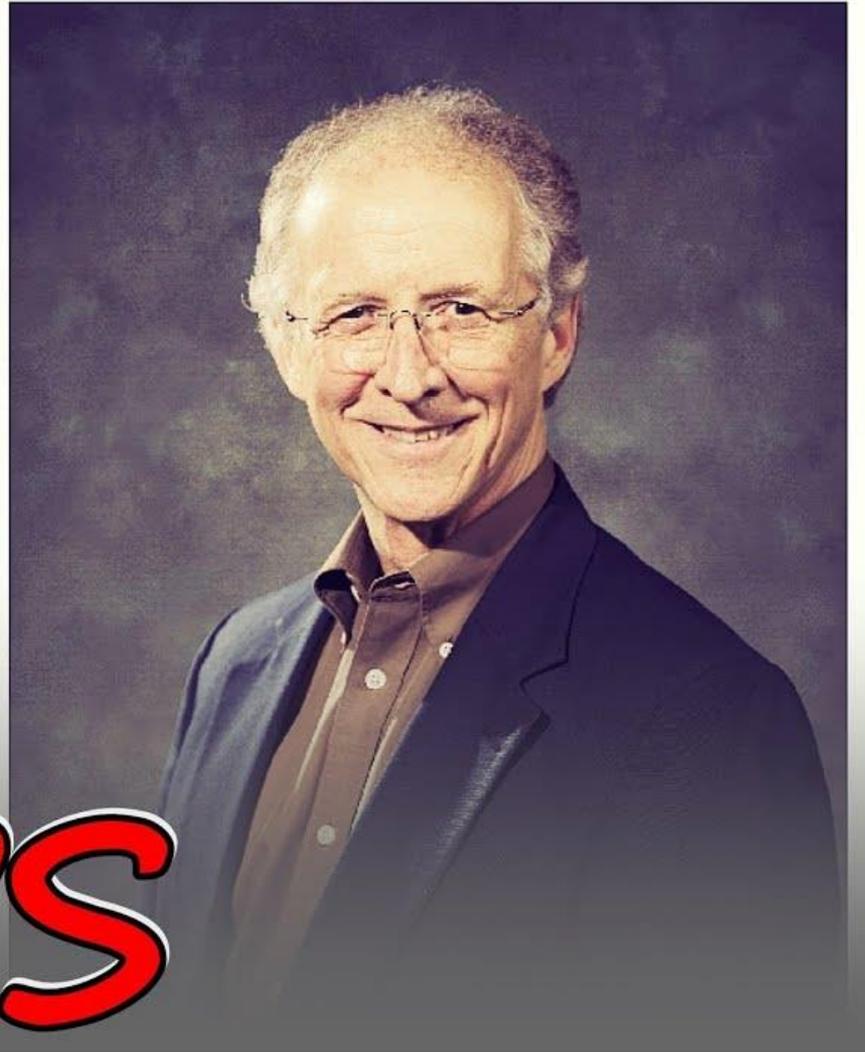
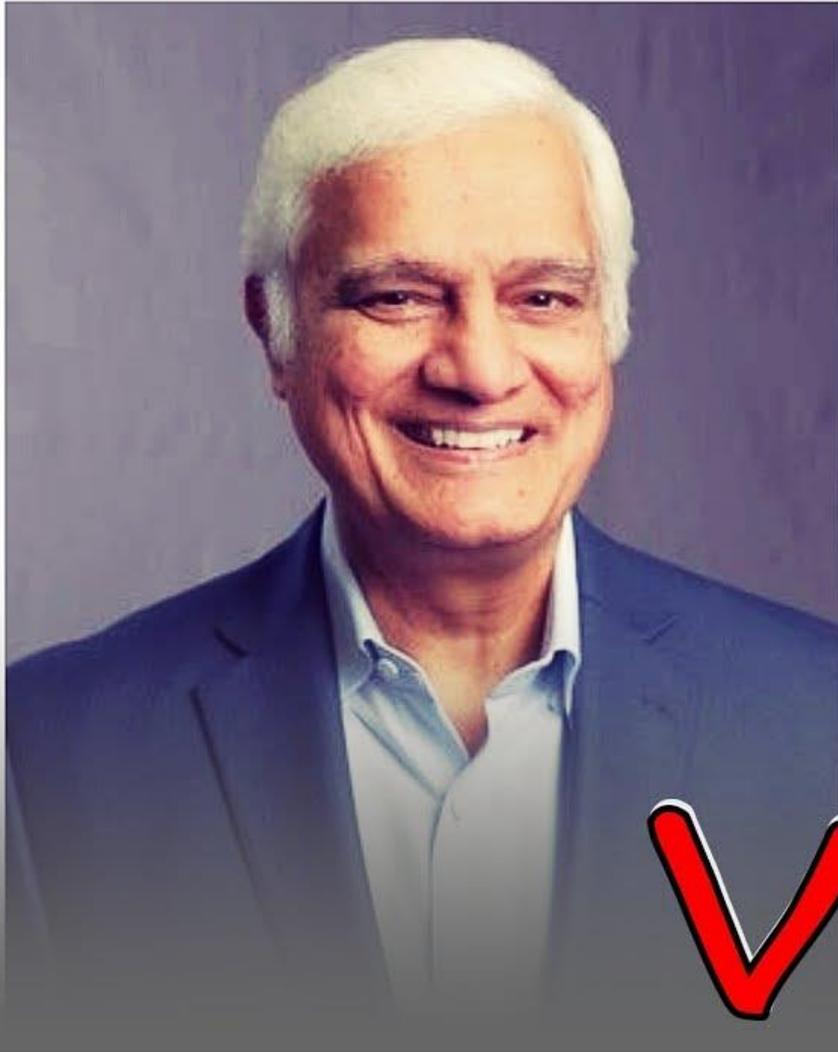


Billy Graham addressed the  
nation in the National Cathedral  
on September 14, 2019.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VptxoWl0pxI>

# We Reject Billy about 9/11

- “God cares for us ... no matter ethnic, religious, etc.”
- “God understands your feelings of anger at Him.”
- “I do not know why God allows tragedy and suffering.”
- “God is sovereign and love ... but evil is a ‘mystery’.”
- “It was good for Congress to sing, ‘God Bless America’.”



**VS**

Ravi Zacharias and John Piper  
were selected as apologist  
and preacher to explain  
evil in the world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nHWwplNKmZY>



# We Reject Ravi Zacharias about Evil

- “The supreme ethic God has given to us is love.”
- “God must allow evil to preserve our free will.”
- “God must preserve free will to maximize love.”
- “If free will and love are supreme, events are good.”
- “Before God, the mystery will be worked out clearly.”



# We Reject John Piper about Evil

- “God can very easily stop any act of evil at anytime.”
- “10,000 orphans depend on sovereignty for hope.”
- “Compromising His sovereignty compromises hope.”
- “God ordains evil for our sins; it is the basis of hope.”
- “God’s sovereignty in evil turns for comfort in good.”

# Why Do They Avoid Truth?

- Neither man mentioned God's glory. *God forbid!*
- Ravi said nothing at all of sin, and Piper only a little.
- They ignored the raging hate, violence in every man.
- Why is free will, love, and comfort so all important?
- Idolatry of universal love and free will is damning.

Why no appeal to the Bible that  
directly and plainly answers  
all questions about evil?

# Truth Axiom #1

“The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.”

Proverbs 16:4

## Truth Axiom #2

“Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.”

Ecclesiastes 7:29

# Truth Axiom #3

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”

Jeremiah 17:9

# Truth Axiom #4

“Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain.”

Psalm 76:10

# Truth Axiom #5

“God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.”

Romans 3:4

# God Has No Problem! (1)

- Our God does not have problems ... He has a purpose!
- Atheistic skeptics cannot explain anything, only attack.
- They have no solution, but yet mock Bible Christianity.
- They totally justify God rewiring their sodomite and transvestite minds and friends for inconvenient evil they are too ignorant to know dishonors them all.

## God Has No Problem! (2)

“I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me ... That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else. I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things. Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?”

Isaiah 45:5-9

## God Has No Problem! (3)

“For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth. Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?”

Romans 9:16-21

# Their Equation Is the Problem!

- What did they leave out of their equation? *Think!*
- They left out man ... the diabolical fiend in the mirror!
- They do not want the responsibility for human pain!
- Can you trace Hiroshima's pain to Japan's war council?
- Your unhappiness this moment is your fault (Pr 15:15).

# Answer #1 – God Is Not Evil

- God is good by creation and providence (Acts 14:17).
- He is even very good to His enemies (Matt 5:43-48).
- We know this by what the Bible says (Matt 19:17).
- God cannot even be tempted by evil (Jas 1:13-15).
- God compared to man is good compared to evil.

# Answer #2 – Evil Is Man’s Fault (1)

- Man is a cruel, God-denying fool (Ps 14:1-3; Rom 3:10-18).
- Man is very wicked (Jer 17:9; Rom 1:18-32; Tit 3:3; Eph 4:17-19).
- Abominable and filthy, man drinks iniquity like water.
- Even “acts of God” have human conduct connected.
- Can you trace from WWII to voting Hitler into office?

## Answer #2 – Evil Is Man’s Fault (2)

- Human dysfunction is the result of human ignorance.
- Human cruelty and pain are result of human malice.
- Starving Sudanese children are by Sudanese sex choice.
- WWII was by despotic rulers and citizens helping them.
- Up until “acts of God,” man is clearly at fault and guilty.

# Answer #3 – Man Made Himself Evil

- God created man ... but not as man presently is!
- God created man good and very good, but he sinned!
- Adam and Eve corrupted themselves and their race.
- The evil affecting the universe is by Satan and Adam.
- Rather than blame God ... *stop doing evil yourself!*

# Answer #4 – God Allows Man's Evil

- If God is sovereign, and He is ... why is there still evil?
- He is the First Cause of all things ... of evil as well.
- God giving Adam a will is not the active cause of evil.
- God gave Adam every ability and reason against evil.
- God planned and managed the evil of free creatures.

# Answer #5 – God Rules Man’s Evil (1)

- God uses man’s evil for His glory and man’s profit.
- Foundational verses are key (Pro 16:4; Psalm 76:10; Rev 4:11).
- He says you have no right to even question it (Ro 9:19-20).
- He rules man’s evil for His glory (Jn 9:3; Ac 2:22-24; 4:24-28).
- He rules man’s evil for man’s profit (Gen 45:4-8; 50:20).

# Answer #5 – God Rules Man's Evil (2)

- He rules man's evil for man's warning (Luk 13:1-5; Pr 29:1).
- He rules adversity for man's humility (Eccl 1:14-15; 7:14).
- He rules man's evil to minimize it (Ps 76:10; Gen 20:6).
- He rules man's evil to punish him (Josh 11:20; Is 10:5-15).
- He rules man's evil to chasten him (He 12:5-13; I Co 11:30-32).

# Answer #5 – God Rules Man’s Evil (3)

- He rules man’s evil to perfect him (Jas 1:2-4; Rom 5:3-5).
- He rules man’s evil to confirm natural laws (Num 32:23).
- He rules man’s evil to expose his insanity (Rom 1:18-32).
- He rules man’s evil to fulfill prophetic plans (Rev 17:17).
- He rules man’s evil to never exceed (Ps 76:10; I Cor 10:13).

# Answer #6 – Man Deserves Worse

- Man's sinfulness justifies far greater evil than he has.
- The rich man cries, *One minute out of hell is a blessing!*
- The rich man cries, *One minute in church is a blessing!*
- Job suffered very much ... but God's wrath was worse.
- Any evil you identify ... is far less than hell's torment.

# Answer #7 – Man Had/Has Chances

- Adam was the most perfect representative possible.
- Only one commandment to keep in a perfect world.
- He had greatest incentives and the soberest warning.
- God's creation/providence preaches loudly each day.
- Cleft palate, holocaust, 9/11 ... they all scream, Repent!

# Answer #8 – God's Mercy Is Sovereign

- While you whine He hated Esau ... God loved Jacob!
- He has mercy / compassion on whom He will (Ro 9:15-16).
- He owes it to no devil or man; He's shown it to many.
- He is merciful every minute they breathe His air.
- Each minute they breathe, He preaches repentance!

# Answer #9 – The Future is Evil-Free!

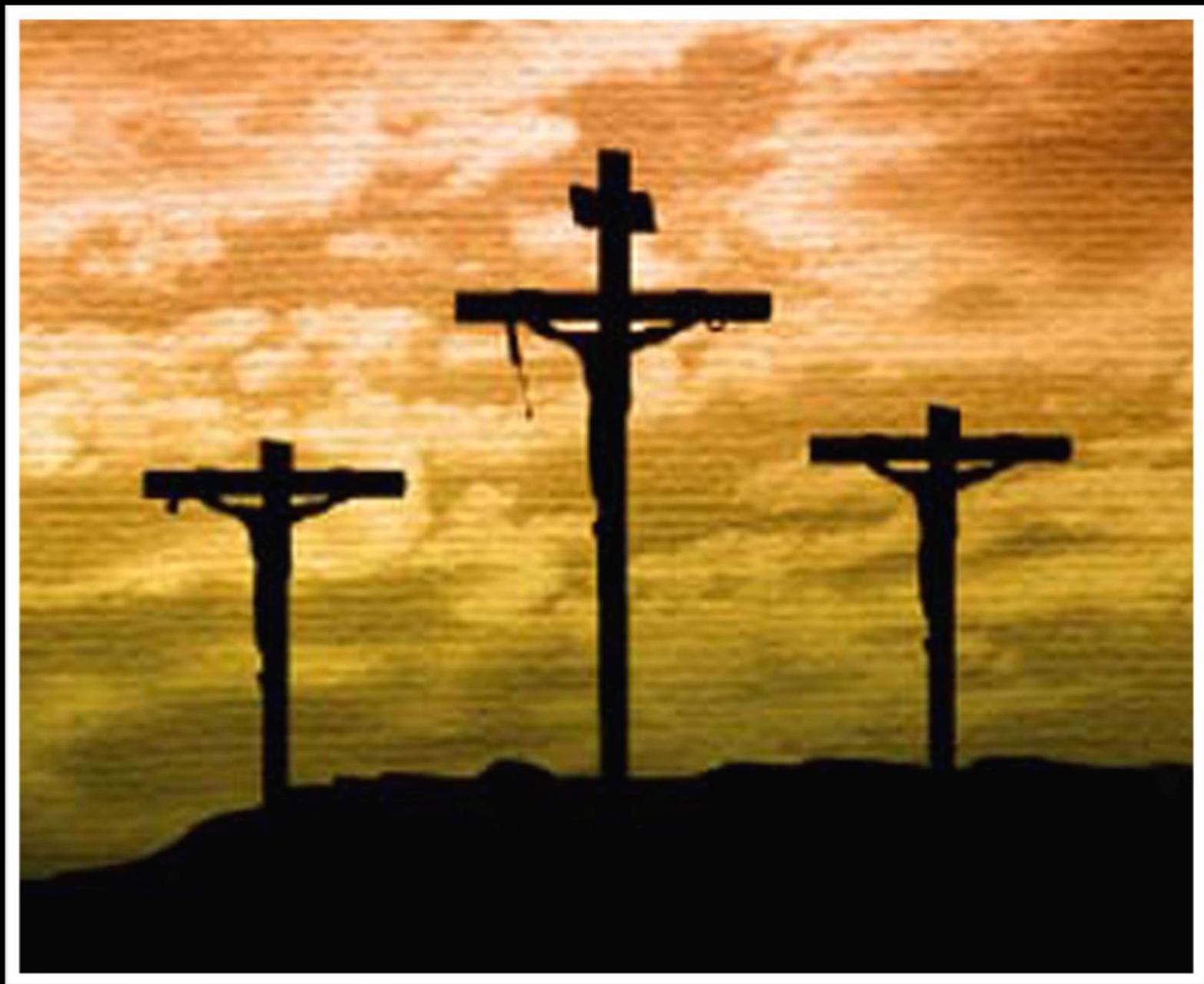
- This is not the best world now ... but one is coming!
- If God is great and good, He will eliminate evil ... Yes!
- He will destroy and consign every evildoer to hell!
- He will renovate the universe eliminating all evil!
- Holiness and righteousness will reign without evil!

# Answer #10 – God Is Gloriously Holy

- All evil in the universe exists for the holiest reasons.
- Will you blame the sun for darkness, if it withdraws?
- Be like Job for two chapters only ... then like Elihu!
- God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He.
- If He sends your soul to hell, His holy law approves it well.

# More Answers – A Few Final Thoughts

- All evil in human experience is by the fault of man.
- All good in human experience is by the mercy of God.
- God gives what we chose in Eden – lies and death.
- God both uses man's evil and punishes it (Rom 9:19-20).
- God allows sin for His greater judgment (Gen 15:16; etc.).



# **Greatest Evil ... to ... Greatest Good!**

- The crucifixion of Jesus is the most terrible evil ever.
- The result is the greatest act of good and love ever.
- Do not blame God for evil ... praise God for all good.
- Repent for any evil in your life and do good for Him.
- Also turn as many others from evil to good for Him.

# Conclusions

- Any evil you see does not alter truth ... it confirms it.
- Evil events happen for His glory and for your profit.
- As Job did with worse evil than you know ... worship!
- Remember He is the Potter ... you the clay ... silence!
- Earth's potsherd should worship the Potter, not argue!

# For Further Study

**Dominion of God** ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/god/dominion-of-god/sermon.php>

Note: See all the links at the bottom of the sermon outline above.

**Why Bad Things Happen** ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/why-bad-things-happen.pdf>

**Proverbs 16:4** ... [http://www.letgodbetrue.com/proverbs/commentaries/16\\_04.php](http://www.letgodbetrue.com/proverbs/commentaries/16_04.php)

**WTC Commentary** ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/today/finger-of-god.php>

A.W. Pink's, [The Sovereignty of God](#).

Gilbert Beebe's, [Absolute Predestination](#).

Jerome Zanchius's, [Absolute Predestination](#).

Internet Article ... <https://bible.org/article/problem-evil>

[www.LetGodBeTrue.com](http://www.LetGodBeTrue.com)