

WHY DOES GOD ALLOW EVIL AND SUFFERING?

The God Questions Part 5

January 31, 2010

*“Then God looked over all he had made,
and he saw that it was very good!”*

Genesis 1:31

Our view of evil and suffering is determined by _____

⁹“Then God said, ‘Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear.’ And that is what happened. ¹⁰God called the dry ground ‘land’ and the waters ‘seas’. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, ‘Let the land sprout with vegetation —every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came.’ And that is what happened. ¹²The land produced vegetation —all sorts of seed-bearing plants, and trees with seed-bearing fruit. Their seeds produced plants and trees of the same kind. And God saw that it was good...¹⁴Then God said, ‘Let great lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them mark off the seasons, days, and years. ¹⁵Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth.’ And that is what happened. ¹⁶God made two great lights, the sun and the moon —the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷God set these lights in the sky to light the earth, ¹⁸to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good... ³¹Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good! And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.”

Genesis 1:9-12; 14-18; 31

God created a world _____

¹⁵“The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶But the Lord God warned him, ‘You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden — ¹⁷except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.’” Genesis 2:15-17

Evil and suffering came into the world _____

¹⁶“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.’ ¹⁷And 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. ¹⁸It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains. ¹⁹By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return.’” Genesis 3:16-19

We underestimate _____ and

overestimate _____



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