

WHY DID GOD ALLOW THE POSSIBILITY OF
EVIL AND
SUFFERING?



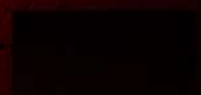
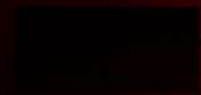
Welcome from the Kirkland church family!



September 13, 2015

The Problem of Human Suffering

- Two types of suffering that should not be a concern for us:
- Suffering which results from:
 - Our own deliberate sin (Prov. 13:15).
 - Failure to heed clear warnings (2 Peter 2:5).



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“And Jesus saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, Master, **who did sin, this man, or his parents,** that he was born blind? Jn 9:1-2



WHY DID GOD ALLOW THE POSSIBILITY OF
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“And Jesus answered, **Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.**” Jn 9:3



Why would God allow?

Keep in mind that . . .

- **Pain is often necessary** for our survival (Ps 139:14, Lk 10:30).
- Much suffering is the result of our own **ignorance** (Rev 14:13).
- **Value and Strength** can be found in pain and suffering (1 Peter 5: 6-7, 1 Peter 1: 6-7, 2 Cor 4:16-17, 12:7-9).

I Peter 5: 6-11

“Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, 7 casting all your anxiety on Him, because *He cares for you.*

9 But resist the devil, be firm in your faith, knowing that *the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.*

10 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.” (NASU).

The Problem of Human Suffering

- *“Even though you are temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials This is no accident — it happens to **prove your faith, which is infinitely more valuable than gold.**” (1 Peter 1:6-7 Phillips)*



Paul: 2 Cor 12: 7-10

7 ... to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me **a thorn in the flesh**, a *messenger of Satan* to torment me — to keep me from exalting myself! Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.

9 And He has said to me, "**My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.**" Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for **when I am weak, then I am strong.** NASU

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*“That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, **our spirits are being renewed every day**. For our present troubles are small and won’t last very long. Yet they **produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever**” (2 Corinthians 4:16-17)*



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The Problem of Human Suffering

- Enables us to relate to and minister to others (Jn 9:3).



- ARE YOU AN INSTRUMENT
OF God?

