



## *Why does God permit evil?*

- I. Good God – Bad World, Why?
  - a. Sin
    - i. Some say no such thing as sin, only errors, mistakes or bad judgment.
    - ii. Sin is lawlessness, rebellion towards God. I John 3:4
    - iii. Who is responsible for beginning sin? Satan! John 8:44
  - II. The Devil
    - a. Is the Devil real?
      - i. Jesus believed the devil to be real. Matthew 4:1,8,10; Ephesians 6:10-12
      - ii. Where did he come from? Luke 10:18; Revelation 12:7-9
      - iii. How did sin start in Satan? Once he was a true supporter of God. Pride entered his heart and he finally turned to rebellion.
    - b. From Lucifer to Satan.
      - i. Fell because of pride! Isaiah 14:12-14
      - ii. Had been a leading angel. Ezekiel 28:12-16
      - iii. Lucifer had been a beautiful creature. II Corinthians 11:14
      - iv. Did a good God make a bad devil? NO! It was a choice.
    - c. Why did God permit sin?
      - i. Why didn't God destroy Lucifer immediately? The universe would wonder why? Is God a God of love or somebody to be feared?
      - ii. Lucifer accused God of being a dictator. If God destroyed Lucifer immediately, others might have said it proved Lucifer right.
      - iii. Lucifer had been a commanding angel in heaven.
      - iv. Lucifer was allowed a time of probation, a time to repent.
  - III. The Plan of Salvation
    - a. Story of temptation and fall.
      - i. Adam and Eve were warned, yet given choice with the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.
      - ii. Eve's exhilarating feelings got her in trouble. She should have followed Isaiah 8:20; I John 2:4

1. Satan may have hoped that God would wipe out Adam and Eve immediately, thus proving that God was a mean dictator.  
Rather God put John 3:16 in motion.
  - iii. First animal sacrifice. John 1:29; Romans 6:23
  - iv. Adam is the head of the human race. Christ head of all Christians. I Corinthians 15:22
- b. Why do men suffer?
- i. Because of sin. Like a congenital disease. Satan is a troublemaker.
  - ii. Because of sin, innocent people suffer for wrongs of others.
  - iii. We suffer for our own violations of the law. Galatians 6:7 I John 3:4  
When someone runs a red light and hurts an innocent victim both suffer.
  - iv. Power of choice.
  - v. Sometimes suffering is a test. Job 1:8-12
- c. Can we blame God for the suffering?
- i. Do you blame the physician in the emergency room after a car accident?
  - ii. Satan is the cause, God is the remedy.
  - iii. Satan is the one that brings suffering. Luke 13:16; Job 1:1-2:7