

NOTES

Skeptical #3 | "The Problem of a Loving God: Why Evil and Suffering?" | May 8, 2022
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The existence of evil proves an all-loving & all-powerful God.

Amended Intellectual Argument

HEAD

1. An all-powerful being can do anything, except that which is illogically possible that would violate His nature.
2. An all-good being would want to prevent evil, unless there was a sufficient reason to allow it.
3. Evil exists.
4. Therefore, if there is an all-powerful God that is all-good, then evil is an illogical possibility to prevent and/or He has a good (morally sufficient) reason to allow it.

"Evil is something, but it is not some thing." (Gen. 2:16-17)

HEART

At the pinnacle of creation, moral freedom and choice were given.

1. Suffering tethers us back to dependency on God. (2 Cor. 12:7-9a)
2. God is involved in our suffering...and that should bring comfort and hope. (1 Cor. 15:17-18; John 16:33, Jer. 29:11, Rom. 8:28-29)
3. God is not just some distant creator, but a God that shared in our discomfort and suffering. (John 1:14; Heb. 4:15)
4. God hates evil. (Is. 52:14; 1 Peter 3:18)
5. God has done and is continuing to do something about evil.

HANDS

1. Holy Spirit's empowerment and strength in the midst of evil. (Lk 12:11-12; 2 Cor. 1:5)
2. God leveraging evil for His plans. (Gen. 50:20)
3. Institutions set up to govern and make laws. (1 Peter 2:13-14)
4. The Church set up to respond to evil. (Eph. 4:11-12; Eph. 6:12)
5. The inevitable new Heaven and earth. (Rev. 21:1&4; 2 Cor 4:16-17)

Is temporary suffering worth the wait to meet Jesus?

Is temporary suffering worth the endurance to allow others to meet Jesus?