



## All that God had made was good

Genesis 1:24 NASU

God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good.

And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

## If God is so good, why is there pain & suffering in this world?

### Not just a Christian question...

- ✓ **Hinduism:** Evil, pain & suffering are a result of karma. Blames victims for their fate.

John 9:1-3 NIV

1 As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth.

2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus,

"but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life."

- ✓ **New Age:** Denies the reality of evil & suffering. Negative events/evil are illusions.

- ✓ **Islam:** If evil, pain and suffering happen...it is the will of Allah.

John 16:2 CEV

And the time will come when people will kill you and think they are doing God a favor.

- ✓ **Atheism:** Because evil, pain & suffering exist...God does not.

Bad things happen because there's no such thing as a good and loving God.

John 10:10 NASU

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy;  
I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

## Christians have the answer to the "why" and more...

Romans 5:12 NKJV

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin,  
and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned —

Romans 5:15 NIV

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man,  
how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man,  
Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

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# You Asked For It!

## Why Is There Pain & Suffering In The World?

### What to do in times of pain & suffering...

#### 1. Cry out to **God.**

Matthew 26:39 NLT

He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying,  
"My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from Me.  
Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."

#### 2. Ask God to **teach** you something that will make you better.

Romans 5:3-4 CEV

3 But that's not all! We gladly suffer, because we know that suffering helps us to endure.

4 And endurance builds character, which gives us a hope

Hebrews 5:8 NLT

Even though Jesus was God's Son, He learned obedience from the things He suffered.

#### 3. Let God show you His **purpose** in your pain.

Genesis 50:20 NKJV

But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to  
bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

Romans 8:28 NLT

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those  
who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.

#### 4. Get to know Jesus **better** and walk with Him in victory.

Philippians 3:10 NIV

I want to know Christ better. I want to know the power that raised Him from the dead.

I want to share in His sufferings. I want to become like Him by sharing in His death.

Philippians 2:8-11 NASU

8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the  
point of death, even death on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and  
bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus  
EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11  
and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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