

Four-Lesson Special
The Holocaust, Anti-Semitism,
and Us—Part 4

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The Existence of Evil – Part 2



THE HOLOCAUST,
ANTI-SEMITISM,
& US

Jer. 29:11, “ ‘For I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.’ ”

The Problem of Evil

The Problem of Evil

How can a good, loving, and all-powerful God allow the pain, suffering, sickness, death, and suffering that plagues so many people to either exist or continue to exist?

The Problem of Evil

How can a good, loving, and all-powerful God allow 6 million of His chosen people, the apple of His eye, to be so brutally tortured and murdered?

The Problem of Evil

The question focuses us on the character of the Judeo-Christian God and the attributes ascribed to Him in the Torah and the New Testament.

ESSENCE OF GOD

Sovereign

Omniscient

Righteousness

Omnipresent

Justice

Omnipotent

Love

Veracity

Eternal Life

Immutability

ESSENCE OF GOD

Sovereign

Omniscience

~~Righteousness~~

Omnipresent

Justice

~~Omnipotent~~

Love

Righteousness

Eternal

**Goodness/
Omni-benevolence**

Omni-benevolence

Love

Omniscience

Omnipotent

Does Evil exist?

Yes?

No?

Pantheism
**Evil is an
illusion**

Does Evil exist?

Yes?

Theism

**Evil is finite
and
defeated**

Atheism

**Evil is
normal and
eternal**

Pagan

Polytheism

**Evil is
normal and
eternal**

**Psa. 25:8, “Good and upright is the LORD;
Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.”**

**Psa. 34:8, “Oh, taste and see that the
LORD is good; Blessed is the man who
trusts in Him!”**

**Psa. 69:16, “Hear me, O LORD, for Your
lovingkindness is good; Turn to me
according to the multitude of Your tender
mercies.”**

Job 1:1, “There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.”

Job 1:8, “Then the LORD said to Satan, ‘Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?’ ”

Job 1:9, “So Satan answered the LORD and said, ‘Does Job fear God for nothing?’ ”

Job 2:3, “Then the LORD said to Satan, ‘Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause.’ ”

If God is good, then He must not be powerful enough to control all the evil, injustice, and suffering in the world since it continues.

If He is powerful enough to stop all of this injustice and suffering then He must not be good!

The Evil Syllogism:

- 1. If God is all powerful He could destroy evil.**
- 2. If God is all good, He will destroy evil.**
- 3. But evil is not destroyed.**
- 4. Therefore, there is no all-good, all-powerful God.**

The Biblical Answer:

- 1. If God is all good, then He will destroy evil.**
- 2. If God is all powerful, then He can destroy evil.**
- 3. Evil is not yet destroyed.**
- 4. Therefore, evil will be destroyed eventually.**

- 1. An all-good God must have a good purpose for everything.**
- 2. But there is no good purpose for some (i.e., useless or innocent) suffering.**
- 3. Hence there cannot be an all-good God.**

- 1. That we don't know a good purpose for evil does not mean there is none.**
- 2. An all-good God knows a good purpose for everything (including evil).**
 - a. Some evil seems to us to have no good purpose.**
 - b. But an all-good God has a good purpose for everything.**
 - c. So even evil that seems to have no good purpose does have a good purpose.**
- 3. Therefore, there is a good purpose for all suffering, even that which we cannot now explain.**

“Christian ethics are out of harmony with human nature and are secretly antagonistic to Nature’s scheme of evolution.” Sir Arthur Keith