

Why does evil and suffering exist? (2)

Explanations to the existence of evil/suffering

- why this discussion can be very personal

- review: *theodicy*
Ps. 103:19; Lam. 3:37-38; Amos 3:6b; Is. 45:5-7, 9; Ps. 5:4; 1 Jn. 1:5

① best way/greater good defense

Is. 53:4-11

Rom. 8:28

② soul-making defense

Rom. 5:3-4; Heb. 5:8

Gen. 50:20; Lk. 13:1-5; Rom. 2:4

“...pain insists on being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.” – *C.S. Lewis*

③ free will defense

Gen. 3:14-19; Rom. 8:18-23; Gen. 6:5

④ limited knowledge defense

Deut. 29:29; Job

⑤ negation/privation defense

Gen. 1; Col. 1:16; 1 Tim. 4:4

- God wills evil to exist without Himself being evil
 - the black of evil amplifies the brilliance of God’s glory
Rom. 3:5; 9:22-23

 - the black of evil amplifies the wonder of God’s holiness and mercy
Jude 4; Rom. 5:8-9