

**WHY DOES
GOD ALLOW
EVIL AND
SUFFERING?**

The Argument from Evil

- Evil exists, therefore, God must not
- “There must not be a god, look how much evil there is in the world; if there was a god, such evil would not exist.”

Epicurus

- Either God wants to abolish evil and cannot, or he can but does not want to, or he cannot and does not want to, or he can and wants to.
- If he wants to remove evil and cannot, he is not omnipotent; if he can, but does not want to, he is not benevolent; if he neither can nor wants to, he is neither omnipotent nor benevolent; but if God can abolish evil and wants to, how does evil exist?

David Hume

- Is God willing to prevent evil but not able?
Then he is impotent.
- Is he able but not willing?
Then he is malevolent.
- Is he both able and willing?
From whence then is evil?

THOMAS JAY OORD

Author of The Uncontrolling Love of God

GOD CAN'T

HOW TO BELIEVE IN GOD AND LOVE
AFTER TRAGEDY, ABUSE, AND OTHER EVILS

The Classics

- The suffering of Jesus

The Classics

- The suffering of Jesus
- The suffering of Joseph

The Classics

- The suffering of Jesus
- The suffering of Joseph
- The suffering of Job

The Classics

The Suffering of	The Purpose
JESUS	Immediately known
JOSEPH	Eventually known
JOB	Never known (to him)

1. God allows evil and suffering as the just and natural consequences of sin and rebellion.

No mystery, just history:

- Genesis 3 really happened!
- The Fall really happened!
- The Curse really happened!

Rays of hope

Rays of hope

- The amount of suffering isn't nearly proportional to the amount of evil.

Rays of hope

- The amount of suffering isn't nearly proportional to the amount of evil.
- All evil and suffering is temporary.

Rays of hope

- The amount of suffering isn't nearly proportional to the amount of evil.
- All evil and suffering is temporary.
- God is doing something about evil and suffering.

“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

