

WRESTLING WITH GOD

“THE QUESTION OF EVIL”
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TEXT: Job 42:1-6

In a 2023 Barna research study, the presence of evil/suffering in the world was one of the top reasons people doubted or disbelieved in the God of the Bible. Using the book of Job as an outline, let's examine a few ways to approach this conversation.

1) What does the presence of evil/suffering say about God's _____ and _____? (Job 1-2)

a) The _____ against God from evil

b) The Claim: God cannot be omnibenevolent or _____ because evil exists.

The Rebuttal: Just because evil is not destroyed _____ does not mean it _____.

2) How do other _____ understand the problem of evil? (Job 3-37)

TRUTH: "The problem of evil is a _____ for every worldview. But a strong back can carry a heavy load."
– Dr. Douglas Groothuis

TRUTH: Our ability to make _____ (evil vs good) is actually an evidence for God's existence.

a) _____ believes evil exists because it is a godless world.

b) Many new age and eastern religions deny that evil _____.

c) Worldviews based on karma and reincarnation believe that through universal assessment over many lifetimes, evil is _____.

3) How does _____ understand the problem of evil? (Job 38-41)

TRUTH: It begins with the reminder that God is _____ and humans are _____.

a) Evil is a result of _____ which brought a brokenness to all creation.

b) God has a plan to _____ creation and overcome _____.

c) In the meantime, God is big enough and powerful enough to cause _____.

TRUTH: There is a difference between our _____ God's purpose for suffering and His _____ to have a purpose for it.

4) What is the appropriate _____ to God in the midst of suffering? (Job 42)

TRUTH: God is worthy of our worship even when He doesn't give us _____ for our suffering.

Additional Resources:

- *Christian Apologetics: A Comprehensive Case for Biblical Faith* by Douglas Groothuis
- *When Skeptics Ask* by Norman Geisler
- *The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask* by Mark Mittleberg
- YouTube: Bible Project: Book of Job Summary A Complete Animated Overview

