

The Savior

Pastor Anthony J. Shetley
Sunday, February 5, 2023

What is wrong with our world, and where did it all go wrong, and will it ever be right again?

What is wrong with my world? Where did I go wrong, and will I ever get it right?

The bible is a book, or more accurately, it is the book of answers to our deepest questions. No other resource has undergone more attacks than the bible. Many foes have come and gone, yet, the bible still stands with its full integrity.

“All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever.” - 1 Peter 1:24–25 (NIV)

What is wrong with the world?

Romans 5:12 (NIV)

...Sin entered the world through one man, and death (entered) through sin, and in this way, death came to all people, because all sinned.

Sin brought with it every sorrow that plagues humanity to this day. *It all went wrong* when sin entered the hearts of men. Nature itself began to travail.

What is sin?

When one uses something in a way in which it was not designed for, it tends to break. For example, if you use a cell phone to drive a nail, it most likely will break the phone. You may try to fix the phone, but if you're not sure of what you're doing you probably will make it worse, or, at best, it will never be of the same quality it was prior to it being damaged. The best thing to do is to take it to the experts - to those who create such technology and design such intricate devices.

In the same way, when we choose to live our life in a way that God never designed us for, then our life becomes broken. We may try to fix ourselves, but it seems as if we only make things worse.

God's word warns us of sin and its consequences declaring that "The wages of sin is death." This word death means separation; separation from life and separation from God.

The brokenness of our world and our life comes from our broken relationship with God.

The wages of sin is death: spiritually, physically, and eternally. Spiritual death is our separation from God. Physical death is the curse of disease, sickness, and death which sin brought upon the body, and eternal death is the eternal separation from God which results from God's righteous judgment.

Man rejects a God of judgment. "I can't believe in a God which allows sickness, suffering, and death, or a God who would condemn a person to an everlasting torment. These indictments against God are unjust. These indictments belong against man. God is Holy and just. Man sinned against God and brought the disasters of sin upon himself.

John 3:16–19 (NIV) ¹⁶For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son...¹⁹This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

What's wrong with our world comes from our enmity with God.

Will the world ever be right again?

Yes! God has set a time in which He is going to make all things new; a new heaven and a new earth in which only righteousness dwells. There is a divinely appointed day when God will carry out the death sentence upon sin. He is going to forever rid the earth of all sin and sinners.

Revelation 20:15 (NIV)

Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

The sinner will spend eternity hating and gnashing their teeth at God. This is the second death. They will be eternally separated from God. They will have never known what life with God is like. They will never know His eternal love or goodness. This present world filled with all of its sorrows and pain will be the only existence they will ever know.

What is wrong with my world? Where did I go wrong?

Psalm 51:5 (NASB)

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.

Romans 7:18,21 (NASB)

*For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh;
for the willingness is present in me, but the doing of the good is not.*

I find then the principle that evil is present in me.

Will I ever get it right?

Romans 7:24–25 (NASB)

*Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?
Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!*

Despite man's greatest efforts, he cannot set himself free from the innate power of sin. The sinner has no means of expunging their sinful past. The sinner stands guilty before a Holy God under an eternal death sentence because of their personal sins and sinfulness.

You can do nothing to save yourself from this plight, but the God who created you, loves you. He has demonstrated His love for you and for me by sending His Son to become a man just like us. By becoming like us, yet without sin, He could offer His life as the payment for our sin. God's justice could never allow sin to go without judgment.

God in His righteous judgment carried out the death penalty against sin upon His own Son. Jesus suffered the full judgment of God upon Himself for us that God could justly forgive our sin and to expunge our guilt. Jesus died so that we could live!

Through Jesus Christ, you can be forgiven. His death alone can redeem you; God has accepted His blood as payment for your sin. Through Jesus Christ you can be made just before God. You can become free from sin's power over you. You can escape the sentence of death upon your eternal life.

“The blood of Jesus, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.”

- John (1 John 1:7)

“Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

- Romans 10:13