

FIRST WEDNESDAY || WHY DOES GOD ALLOW SUFFERING?

Critique #1: If a Good God Exists, He Wouldn't Allow *Pointless Suffering*.

Just because evil _____ to be _____ to you _____ mean that it is.

- ▶ Some of the most difficult and painful experiences in life are also some of the most _____.
- ▶ There are countless people in the Bible whose _____ is changed because of the evil they experienced. (Job, Moses, Joseph, David, Paul, etc.)
Romans 5:3-4 | Hebrews 12:7-11
- ▶ If we can give reasons for at least _____ of the evil in the world, perhaps God has reasons for _____.

The problem of evil is actually more of a _____ for the _____.

- ▶ Atheists can only claim there is evil and injustice in the world if they have a _____ to do so.
- ▶ Evolution actually depends on _____ death and suffering for natural selection to occur.
- ▶ Suffering, injustice, and death should be _____ within an atheistic worldview.

Critique #2: If God does Allow Evil, Then He *Can't Be Good*.

God cares so much about our suffering that He allowed _____ to suffer _____.

- ▶ God took on flesh and _____ firsthand despair, rejection, loneliness, poverty, torture, betrayal, grief, and death.
- ▶ God is _____ about evil and suffering _____ more than us.
- ▶ The reason Jesus came was a _____ to save us from evil and suffering.

Romans 5:8 | Romans 6:23

God promises to _____ all _____ and _____ all _____.

- ▶ The universe will be _____ from all decay and brokenness and all will be healed.
Matthew 19:28-29
- ▶ Evil and suffering will not only be _____, they will make our joy even _____.
Revelation 21:1-4
- ▶ Our current suffering will make our future "non-suffering" _____ better.