What's On Your Mind? Questions You Always Wanted to Ask Why does God allow evil, suffering and pain in the world Sunday, August 10, 2014 Frank Mascaro

While we may not have <u>a I I</u> the answers to this question, the Bible does give us some things we <u>c a n</u> know, such as:

- God is <u>n o t</u> the <u>C r e a t o r</u> of evil and suffering (Gen 1:31; Ezek 28:15; Isa 14:12-14)
- Evil came as the result of the selfishness of man (Gen 3:1-21; 6:5)
 - Moral evil: caused by the actions of <u>free moral</u> agents *i.e. human beings* (crime, murder, cruelty, wars, etc. (Rom 3:23)
 - Natural evil: events that occur as the result of the natural realm nature earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, tsunamis, etc (Gen 3:17-19; Rom 8:19-22)
- We live in a <u>fallen</u> world (John 16:33; Gal 3:22)
- God can bring g o o d out of b a d
 (Gen 50:19-21; Rom 8:28; 2 Pet 3:9)

What's On Your Mind?

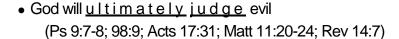
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God will <u>ultimately judge</u> evil
 (Ps 9:7-8; 98:9; Acts 17:31; Matt 11:20-24; Rev 14:7)

 Our <u>p r e s e n t</u> suffering is <u>n o t h i n g</u> compared to what God has <u>p r e p a r e d</u> for His followers (Rom 8:18; Rev 21:4-5) Our <u>p r e s e n t</u> suffering is <u>n o t h i n g</u> compared to what God has <u>p r e p a r e d</u> for His followers (Rom 8:18; Rev 21:4-5)

The <u>Theological</u> explanation for suffering and pain is revealed by:

• The tree in the G a r d e n (Gen 2:16-17; Rom 5:12)

• The tree on <u>C a I v a r v</u> (Gal 3:10-14; Col 2:13-15)

• The tree of <u>Life</u> (Rev 22:2, 13-14; Gen 2:9)

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