

**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 a ll the answers to this question, the Bible does give us some things we c a n know, such as:

- God is n o t the C r e a t o r of evil and suffering  
(Gen 1:31; Ezek 28:15; Isa 14:12-14)
  
- Evil came as the result of the s e l f i s h n e s s of m a n  
(Gen 3:1-21; 6:5)
  - M o r a l evil: caused by the actions of f r e e m o r a l agents - *i.e. human beings* (crime, murder, cruelty, wars, etc. (Rom 3:23)
  - N a t u r a l evil: events that occur as the result of the n a t u r a l r e a l m - *nature* - earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, tsunamis, etc (Gen 3:17-19; Rom 8:19-22)
  
- We live in a f a l l e n w o r l d (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)

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

- Our present suffering is nothing compared to what God has prepared for His followers  
(Rom 8:18; Rev 21:4-5)

The Theological explanation for suffering and pain is revealed by:

- The tree in the Garden (Gen 2:16-17; Rom 5:12)
- The tree on Calvary (Gal 3:10-14; Col 2:13-15)
- The tree of Life (Rev 22:2, 13-14; Gen 2:9)

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