

HOW COULD A GOOD GOD ALLOW SUFFERING?

“10 Tough Topics (3)”

May 14, 2017

MAKING SENSE OF SUFFERING

2 Compelling Examples:

- Charles Templeton--- “Does the presence of evil necessarily mean the absence of God?”
- Bear in a Trap—Only in a world where life is difficult can faith **EXIST** !

The Problem of Logic

- God is All-Powerful—To create free will and not allow for the possibility of evil is a **CONTRADICTION** !
- God is All-Knowing—When the worst that could happen actually results in the best outcome, it can happen **ANYWHERE**
- God is All-Good—The difference is between our good (immediate) and God’s (**ETERNAL**)

So, How to bear the Pain?

- Justice delayed is NOT justice **DENIED**
CS Lewis—Pain is the megaphone of God.
- Every tear is **HIS** tear.
Colossians 1: 20
- Don’t forget the power of God’s **LOVE**
The experience of Job (42:5)
- God makes good **OUT OF** evil.
Joseph’s story (Gen.50:20)- “You meant it for harm, but God for good...”

Bible Reading: Job 42: 1-5; Genesis 50:18-20

¹ Then Job answered the LORD and said:

² “I know that you can do all things,
and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

³ ‘Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?’
Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

⁴ ‘Hear, and I will speak;
I will question you, and you make it known to me.’

⁵ I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,
but now my eye sees you;

Genesis 50: 18-20

¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down before him and said,
“Behold, we are your servants.”

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of
God?

²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for
good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive,
as they are today.