

WHY DOES GOD ALLOW SUFFERING?

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This question is asked every day but the question itself is unfair. It presupposes that suffering is God's fault. It does not take into account that we all have freewill. We are not robots on God's strings or some other sort of automation.

There is also the idea that if no one is to blame, then it is an act of God and His fault.

Richard Dawkins is an atheist stating that there is no God and yet blames God for the suffering and troubles in the world.

You have heard it said that if God is the God of love He would not allow suffering. But there are some who declare that God is abstract, difficult to understand, not practical and not theoretical and, therefore, impersonal.

How does that equate with the God of love answer? It is as stupid as Dawkins saying there is no God but that God is responsible for all suffering and troubles in the world.

Throughout the period of Christianity, millions of people have been comforted by God and this still continues to this day. I have seen it for myself very many times and personally experienced it. The God of the Bible is personal and caring. There is no point anyone arguing about this.

In 1961 in my town, a fine theatre was burned to the ground. God was blamed but it was found that the fire was caused by a cigarette. Does God smoke?

A dreadful scandal was that of the drug thalidomide of the late 1950s which caused thousands of deaths and children were born with birth defects. It has been estimated that up to 100,000 were victims of this drug.

Whose fault was this?

It was the fault of science as applied by the drug company who did not adequately test the drug.

Consider the Nazis and the persecution of the Jews, Six million of them died in gas chambers. Do we blame God for that or ascribe the responsibility to the cruel hatred of Hitler and the National Socialist party of Germany? God is not a God of hate. Satan is the father of lies and the lover of hatred and evil.

Up to 2009, 30 million people died of AIDS including 4 million children. Most, but not all, of the adults deaths were homosexual people accounting for over 86%. With that amount of cases, AIDS is proved to be a preventable condition. Gay people have a free will. Who is responsible for all these deaths?

Stalin was a communist and therefore a left wing politician. He murdered about 20 million fellow countrymen because they did not fit into his left wing policies. Stalin exercised his freewill. This is not God's fault. Stalin had churches and synagogues destroyed and, under his reign of terror, Christians and Jews were tortured and murdered.

There is the problem of cot deaths now considered to be due to respiratory and heart problems but to many they are still unexplained deaths. There is the problem of unnecessary abortions. Do we blame God for these deaths?

A very enthusiastic footballer who was a fast runner ran into the goal post at speed and died. This was an accident but it was not God's fault.

A gang holds up a bank and kills a member of staff. Is this God's fault or the cause of freewill human desire of greed?

The local hospital misdiagnosed a five year old boy and, as a consequence, he died. Whose fault is this?

But people thunder on that God allowed it. He let it happen. It was not his fault but the fault of the hospital of the hospital.

Take the Les Mans disaster of 1955 when 83 people were killed and 120 injured. Was this God's fault? It was the worst crash in motor racing history.

The crash of the Concorde in Paris killed 113 people. It was caused by a burst tyre brought about by uncleared debris on the runway.

On 1 September 2004 there began the Beslan school siege in which almost 400 people died including 186 children. This was the result of terrorism by Muslim groups. This is another example of human and moral evil. Did God instruct these terrorists to undertake this siege?

The National Coal Board and the miners union were responsible for the Aberfan disaster of October 1966. The Miners strike of 1984-5 cost the country six million pounds. The protesting miners murdered two miners going into work and their taxi driver. The instigator of this illegal strike, because a national ballot was not taken, was an atheist and left winger called Arthur Scargill. The Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, wa

(905)s blamed for closing some mines but it was the National Coal Board that closed mines since they were becoming unproductive. Scargill was an anarchist.

Some sincere and misguided people say that as Adam and Eve sinned this is why there is suffering in the world whereas evil was brought into the world by evil forces headed up by Satan.

And there are Satanists today who have places of worship and actively worship the Devil.

We have not answered all the questions that are raised such as the tragedy of miscarriages for example. What we do know is that God is a sympathetic and caring personal God.

In conclusion, just imagine what life would be like without freewill.

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