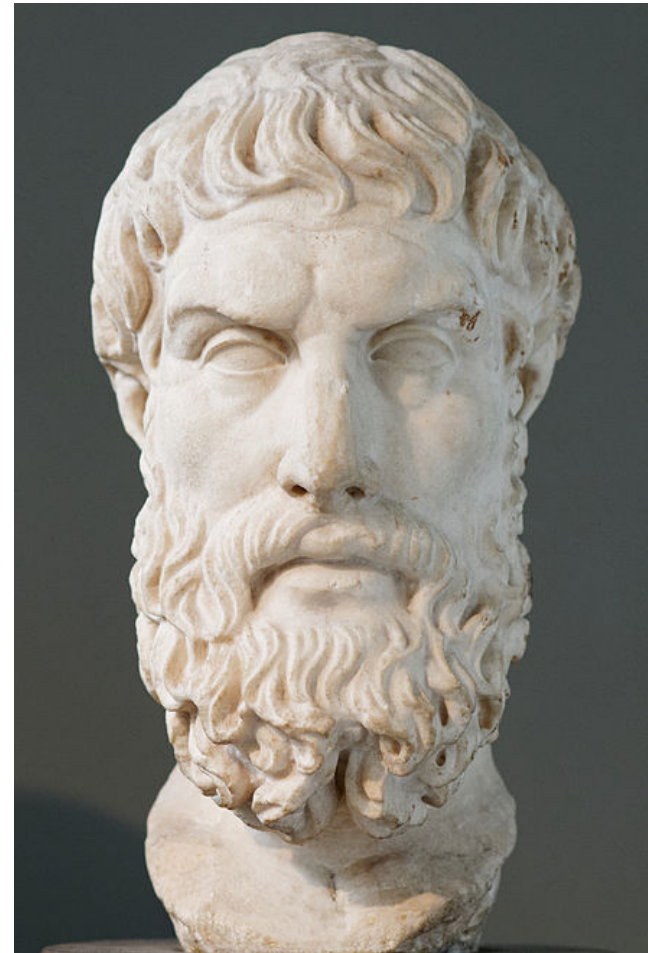


If God Is Good

Faith in the Midst of Suffering and
Evil

The Epicurean paradox

"Is God willing to prevent evil, but not able? Then he is not omnipotent. Is he able, but not willing? Then he is malevolent. Is he both able and willing? Then whence cometh evil? Is he neither able nor willing? Then why call him God?" — 'the Epicurean paradox'.



Epicurus

The problem of Evil

**God is not Good
all the time**

Goodness
of God

**Natural Evil
Moral Evil**

Existence
of Evil

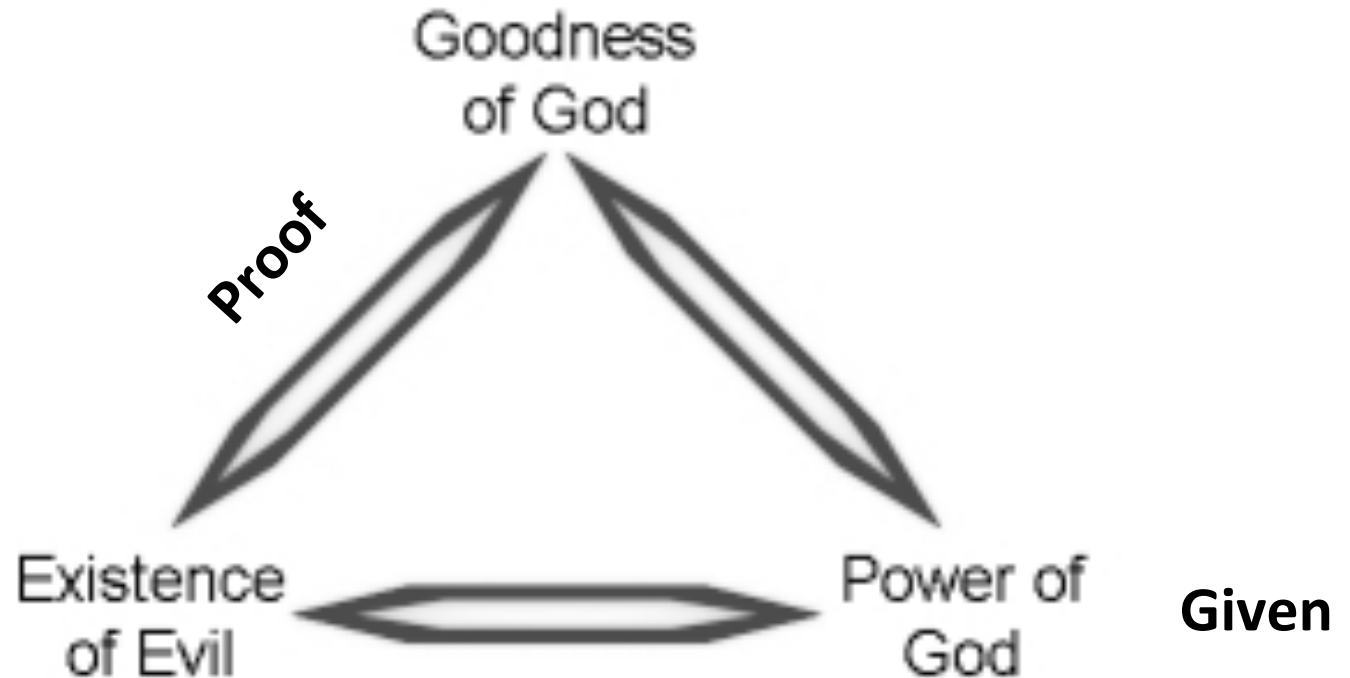
Power of
God

**Evil is not
really evil**

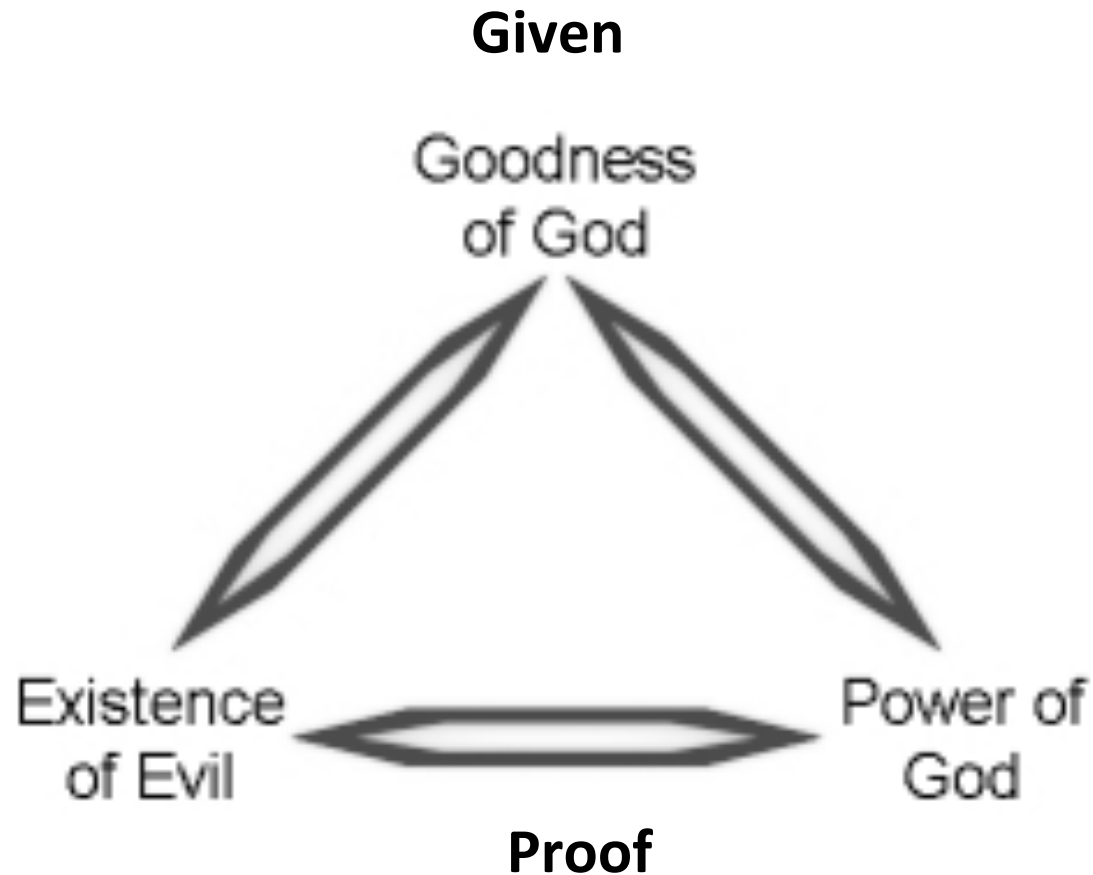
**Not Powerful
all the time**



The problem of Evil



The problem of Evil



Randy Alcorn

EVIL AND SUFFERING

Evil vs. Suffering

- 'Hate what is evil and cling to what is good'

Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, the ground is cursed because of you. All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it **Genesis 3:17**

For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope. Romans 8:20

they will never turn away from me. **41** I will rejoice in doing them good and will assuredly plant them in this land with all my heart and soul. Jeremiah 32:38-41

Who made evil then?

- **Did God create an evil thing?**. “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good”

We know How evil entered into the world through Adam, but we do not know how evil entered into the angels.

The bible chose to be silent about this matter

habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day **Jude 1:6**

Who made evil then?

- **Did God not know this?** For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him **Colossians 1:16.**
- **How can an evil ruler could have been created for Christ?**

Redemptive sacrifice

Did God create evil?

16 And the Lord God commanded the man,

thou
of the
not
test
esis

Is evil equal and opposite to God?

Couldn't all knowing God create another version of this universe where this was all impossible to happen?

Evil Int
w

29 The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law. Deuteronomy 29:29

**Christ redemptive
sacrifice**

What are you choosing (Evil vs. Good)

We were created free to choose but our Freedom of Will is not perfect

- **Governed by our sinful nature.** “Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil”
Jeremiah 13:23
- **Governed by misdirections.** “The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately sick” Jeremiah 17:9.
- **Governed by our desires.** “For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders.. “ Mark 7:21

God brings the good out of the bad

And we know that all things work together for
For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to*
be conformed to the image of His Son, that He
might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Romans 8:29

which He had prepared beforehand for glory

Why God doesn't explain?

8 For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord

4 "Where were you when I laid the foundations
of the earth? Tell *Me*, if you have understanding.

5 Who determined its measurements? Surely you
know! Or who stretched the line upon it? Job

38:4-5

Theistic solutions to Problem evil

- Is God limited in Knowledge?

- Is

- Is

Why do you ask me about what is good. There is only one who is good. Matt 19:17

For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. Matt 11:21

Why does God allow suffering?

3 P **Your suffering draws you closer to others**

Why are we avoiding suffering?

I tell you the truth unless the kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds (John 12:24).

They will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues.. This will be your opportunity to bear witness (Luke 21:12-13)

2 corinthians 1:3-7

IF GOD IS GOOD

If God is Good...

- How do we know good if not from God, isn't this a contradiction to the definition of the problem of evil?
- Why do we not attest the good and rather focus on the bad, isn't that an evidence of inherited goodness?
- Christianity tells you that without God, you cannot have any objective for the goodness

If God is Good... (You do not know)

- God would relief pain.
 - How do you know that God doesn't do that for 99.9%?
- God would prevent disasters.
 - How many times could the earth have suffered but didn't?
- Creatures would be happy.
 - How do you then explain the happiness amidst the pain of all the people?

If God is Good...

- How do we know what is good and what is bad, and by who's definition?

- Does good being full of food, and bad means

Objective Good and Objective Bad

and what is objective bad?

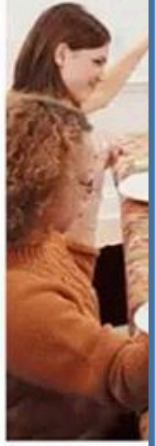
- Death punishment is good for murders.
 - Is life good when you are suffering an excruciating pain.

QUERIDO AMIGO CRISTIANO

Dear Christian friend,

I guess the real question is what are you doing about it. We know now that God is good and he has his reasons, which he is not entirely declaring. The recent statistics revealed that religious people are donating much more than atheists, although they are the one objecting, how astonishing?

agonizingly of
malnutrition today?



¿POR QUÉ NO LE DAS TAMBIÉN LAS GRACIAS EN NOMBRE DE TODAS LAS PERSONAS QUE HAN MUERTO HOY LENTA Y AGÓNICAMENTE POR DESNUTRICIÓN?

Questions?