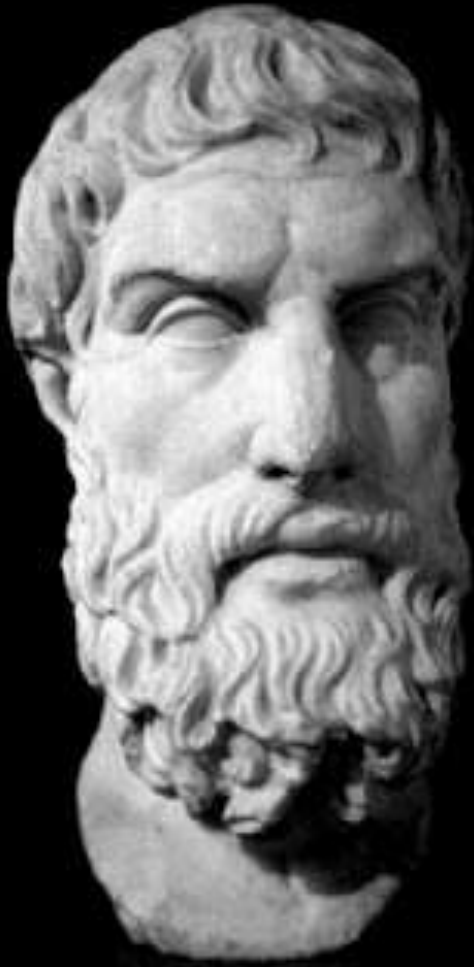


## **Psalm 25:1-2**

**To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust, do not let me be ashamed; do not let my enemies exult over me.**

Why  
*do*  
Evil and Suffering  
*exist?*

*Tough Questions Series*



*“Either God wants to abolish evil, and cannot; or he can, but does not want to; or he cannot and does not want to. If he wants to, but cannot, he is impotent. If he can, and does not want to, he is wicked. But, if God both can and wants to abolish evil, then how comes evil into the world?”*

**Epicurus**

# The Question:

1. God is all-powerful.
2. God is loving.
3. Evil exists.

*How can all three be true?*

*1. We Have Free Will.*

# *1. We Have Free Will.*

Job 1:9 Then Satan answered the Lord, "Does Job fear God for nothing? 10 Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. 11 But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face."

# *1. We Have Free Will.*

Genesis 2:16 The Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; 17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."

3:6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

## *2. We Have a Limited Perspective.*



## *2. We Have a Limited Perspective.*

Isaiah 55:8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts."

## *2. We Have a Limited Perspective.*

Isaiah 55:8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts."

Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways?

$$\frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln|x| + C$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t+2t}{\sqrt{t}} \cdot \frac{\ln t}{t^2} = \frac{3}{t^{3/2}}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} (\cos t)^2 |t| \leq \frac{1}{2} |\cos t| |\sin t|$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ 1 + \frac{2\omega}{n} + \left(\frac{2\omega}{n}\right)^2 \right] \frac{\omega}{n}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f(\bar{x}_i) \Delta x_i \approx \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

$$\int_{-t}^t \exp t^2 dt \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sin \frac{\omega t}{2} = \cos \frac{\omega t}{2} \cdot \frac{\omega}{2}$$

$$D_x e^{\sqrt{x}} = e^{\sqrt{x}} D_x \sqrt{x}$$

$$= f(\bar{x}_1) \Delta x_1 + f(\bar{x}_2) \Delta x_2 + \dots$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = f'(a)$$

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \frac{\nabla P dt}{(\exp^{\sqrt{t}} - 1)} + \int \frac{\nabla P dt}{t^2 \sqrt{t}} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n t^2$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + 3y = 0$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \right) = f'(a)$$

$$D_x \left[ \frac{x^{n+1}}{t+1} + C \right]$$



### *3. We Have a Temporary Home.*

### *3. We Have a Temporary Home.*

Job 19:25 "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth. 26 Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God; 27 Whom I myself shall behold, And whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me!"

### *3. We Have a Temporary Home.*

2 Corinthians 5:1 For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven, 3 inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked.



# *4. We Have a Powerful God.*

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*Where were you when I laid the  
foundation of the earth?*



## *4. We Have a Powerful God.*

*Where were you when I laid the  
foundation of the earth?*

*Have you ever in your life commanded the  
morning, and caused the dawn to  
know its place?*

## *4. We Have a Powerful God.*

*Where were you when I laid the  
foundation of the earth?*

*Have you ever in your life commanded the  
morning, and caused the dawn to  
know its place?*

*Do you give the horse his might?*



# The Question:

1. God is all-powerful.
2. God is loving.
3. Evil exists.

# The Question:

1. *How does scripture describe God's power?*
2. God is loving.
3. Evil exists.

# The Question:

1. How does scripture describe God's power?
2. What would a loving God do?
3. Evil exists.

# The Question:

1. How does scripture describe God's power?
2. What would a loving God do?
3. *What is the origin of evil?*

Our God understands suffering.





Our God understands suffering.  
And suffering does not have  
the final word.

