

While taking the honors classes in Philosophy, my professor who attended discussions at Claremont claimed the strongest argument to disprove the existence of God is the matter of evil occurring in this world. How can an All-Good God exist when there is evil and suffering in this world? Our final exams covered this topic, and I had to pass it. I did learn a lot from the skeptic's side, but I still believe that the Christian's side is more reasonable to believe.

Genesis 1:31: God did not spread evil in this world; He created everything good. Man was the one responsible for bringing evil in this world (Rom. 5:12). In the end, God will restore perfection and rid evil from earth (Rev. 21:1-5).

Skeptic Argument #1: But God could have made everything good and not allow man to cause evil and suffering to happen.

Christian Answer: He gave man free will to love God or choose evil. God does not want robots to love him. He wants people with free choices to love him. You wouldn't want your child to love you like a robot, but rather freely love you (Josh. 24:15).

Skeptic Argument #2: But I prefer to be a robot with no suffering than a free person with suffering.

Christian Answer: Would you be happy for eternity with having robot children loving you? You cannot blame God for creating us with free will, so that He can be happy with people freely loving Him.

Skeptic Argument #3: God is all-powerful, so He could have created us with free will and no evil to happen.

Christian Answer: Saying that we could be created with free will and no evil to happen is actually rejecting free will. In any dictionary you read, free will means to have more than one choice. To have only one choice of serving God does not fit the definition of free will. Must we be so foolish to not even understand the word "free will"?

Skeptic Argument #4: It is not fair that all of mankind has to suffer the consequences of sin when it was only Adam who chose to sin.

Christian Answer: Let us pretend mankind does not suffer the consequences of sin that Adam chose. Do you honestly think that mankind would never choose sin throughout eternity? Of course not; eventually mankind will sin. Look around you. Everyone committed sins, and so did you. Therefore, it is fair that everyone suffers the consequences of sin.

Skeptic Argument #5: Christians believe in miracles. Jesus used miracles to save some people from suffering. So, why didn't God use miracles to stop the Holocaust, Communist persecutions, and World War II?

Christian Answer: Let us pretend God did stop the Holocaust, Communist persecutions, and World War II. Then what about other sufferings in this world? Must God stop them too? If He does, then people will call God a liar, because God said that consequences come from mankind's sin (Rom. 5:12).

Skeptic Argument #6: But how can God allow good people to suffer through horrifying situations, like the Holocaust and Communist persecutions?

Christian Answer: That is our life today. Today, it is common in life to suffer whatever happens in our world, even for good people. Why? Because we chose sin, which God warned can bring horrifying situations (Rom. 5:12). For example, we see "crack babies" suffering because of the sins of their mothers who took drugs. However, God is so merciful to good Christians that He turns bad things for good (Rom. 8:28).

Skeptic Argument #7: But from just eating a fruit off the tree in disobedience is not fair in comparison to suffering earthquakes, diseases, famines, and massacres.

Christian Answer: God is infinite in dignity. So sinning against God deserves infinite punishment. Whatever temporary suffering we go through will never atone to God's infinite dignity. So, God is still gracious and merciful to us.

Skeptic Argument #8: But if God is truly all-good, then why does he make evil happen to the children of Israel or to people on this earth?

Christian Answer: God is not the source of evil, because evil is caused by mankind's sin (Rom. 5:12). Since evil already exists from mankind's sin, God allows evil to fall upon some people, because (1) they deserve punishment for their sins (Gal. 5:8), or (2) God causes a greater good from it (Rom. 8:28).

In conclusion, let me say that I confidently believe without any doubt that there is an All-Good God with the Power to save a soul from Hell. If you do not believe Jesus is God Who died on the cross for your sins, then the Bible says that your soul will end in Hell. God is so good to you that He offers you a simple way to get saved. That is to accept Christ by faith alone!