

6. EVIL | WRONG | (SIN): What went wrong? What is wrong?

Genesis 2:15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

Genesis 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: **Genesis 2:17** But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? **Genesis 3:2** And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

Genesis 3:3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. **Genesis 3:4** And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: **Genesis 3:5** For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Genesis 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. **Genesis 3:7** And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Genesis 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. **Genesis 3:9** And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? **Genesis 3:10** And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. **Genesis 3:11** And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? **Genesis 3:12** And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. **Genesis 3:13** And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. **Genesis 3:14** And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. **Genesis 3:16** Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. **Genesis 3:17** And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; **Genesis 3:18** Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; **Genesis 3:19** In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

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Having never read the Bible we are confronted with life...& often death!

We learn things intuitively:

➤ **Something is wrong**

Death, disease, the modern hated words such as cancer, leukemia, heart attacks, strokes...

We cannot get away from this!

➤ **Something is wrong with me**

We obviously experience this in many ways but especially opposing **desires &/ passions**:

Nobility & Cruelty

Good & Evil

Right & Wrong

Control & Chaos

➤ **Something in me is wrong → something I am**

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Romans 7:15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. **Romans 7:19** For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

Romans 7:23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. **Romans 7:24** O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

Colossians 3:5 **Mortify** (Νεκρώσατε) **therefore** your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, **inordinate affection** (πάθος), **evil concupiscence** (ἐπιθυμίαν κακήν), and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Galatians 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. **Galatians 5:17** For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. **Galatians 5:18** But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, **Galatians 5:20** Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, **Galatians 5:21** Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, **Galatians 5:23** Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. **Galatians 5:24** And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. **Galatians 5:25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

➤ **Something is also wrong with all people**

Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

➤ **Something is wrong that I cannot fix or escape on my own / with only my efforts**

Questions about evil:

1. What is evil?

Genesis 1:4 And God saw the light, **that it was good** (פִּיטוֹב): and God divided the light from the darkness.

Genesis 1:10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw **that it was good** (פִּיטוֹב).

Genesis 1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw **that it was good** (פִּיטוֹב).

Genesis 1:18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw **that it was good** (פִּיטוֹב).

Genesis 1:21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw **that it was good** (פִּיטוֹב).

Genesis 1:25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw **that it was good** (פִּיטוֹב).

Genesis 1:31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, **behold, it was very good** (וַיִּבְרָא טוֹב מְאֹד). And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Of the three, broad worldviews – evil is seen / understood quite differently

A. All is god – an illusion

B. All is nature – simply the way things are

In both of the above settings evil will normally be limited to our enemies or not discussed at all

Or never discussed!

C. Evil as a negation – a parasite

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Within Christianity evil | wrong | sin is always a parasite in that it has no existence on its own.

Sin twists

Sin perverts

Sin misappropriates

Sin misuses

God made **everything**:

Good → Evil

True → False

Right → Wrong

Beautiful → Ugly

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Leviticus 18:21 And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD. **Leviticus 18:22** Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination. **Leviticus 18:23** Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion.