

Lesson 3 Why Does God Allow Suffering?

1. Who is God?

He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

2. What is the nature of God's love?

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil.

3. What is the condition of our world?

And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

4. Is God responsible for pain and evil?

'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.'

5. How is Satan working in the world today?

Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.

6. How is Satan especially targeting those people who have faith in God?

And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

7. Did God create the devil?

You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, iniquity was found in you.

8. What special ability has God given to His children?

Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,

9. Why did Lucifer rebel against God?

How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! . . . For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; . . . I will be like the Most High.'

10. Does the Bible give any further indication as to why Satan rebelled against God?

You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; . . . You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God . . . You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you . . . Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor.

11. What was the result of Lucifer's rebellion against God?

And **war** broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought.

12. Where is the war between good and evil currently being played out?

So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the **earth**, and his angels were cast out with him.

13. How can we know how God feels about the human family?

He who has seen **Me** has seen the **Father**.

For God so **loved** the world that He **gave** His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

14. How did human beings become involved in the sin issue troubling our world?

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and **ate**.

15. Where is Satan's desire for worship ultimately going to lead planet Earth?

All who dwell on the earth will **worship him**, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

16. What is Satan's ultimate fate in this conflict between good and evil?

The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of **fire** and **brimstone** where the beast and the false prophet are.

17. In a world of sin and suffering, what do people have to look forward to?

Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for **new** heavens and a **new** earth in which **righteousness** dwells.

18. How can a person be sure they will live in the New Earth without Satan and sin?

For by **grace** you have been **saved**} through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ **lives** in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by **faith** in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.