

Series: Ready to Answer
Lesson: 8 - Where is God When I Hurt?
Author: Jim Baird



A Common Argument to Disprove God from the Fact of Suffering

The God of Christianity is supposed to be all knowing, all powerful and perfectly good.
Such a God would not allow suffering.
But we see a lot of suffering.
Therefore, the God of Christianity does not exist.

But this argument is not sound, because it is not possible for us to demonstrate beyond a reasonable doubt that God would not allow the suffering we see.

Part of our answer to the logical problem of suffering comes from showing how God might allow some kinds of suffering in order to make greater goods possible.

Some good things which seem to include the possibility of suffering.

Survival

The Freedom to Grow in Knowledge and Power

The Freedom to Choose Good over Evil

The Freedom to Make Choices that Really Matter

The Freedom to Struggle against Evil

The Freedom to Grow in Knowledge of Good and Evil

Important Warning:

The kind of argument just given is for use with people who are claiming that they are kept from God by the intellectual problem of suffering.
But when people are in the middle of grief or an emotional crisis, they need comfort, not arguments.