

suffering

Why Does a Loving and Omnipotent God Allow Suffering?

I. Is He loving?

- A. He sent His own Son to die in our place (1 Tim. 2:3-6)**
- B. He blesses both the bad and the good (Matt. 5:45)**

II. Is He all powerful?

- A. "*But our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases.*" (Psalm 115:3)**
- B. Sparrows, hair, and you (Luke 12:4-7)**

III. What possible reason(s) are there for all the suffering in the world?

- A. Sin, ours and that of humanity, and its effect on all our relationships (Rom. 6:23; Gal. 6:7)**
- B. We have an enemy who has declared war on us (John 10:10; Eph. 6:11-12)**
- C. God's discipline for our growth (Heb. 12:6-11; James 1:2-4)**
- D. For the glory of God (2 Cor. 12:7; John 11:4; Job 1-2)**

IV. God's view on two concepts is *very* different than ours

- A. Time (2 Peter 3:8)**
- B. Death (Phil. 1:21)**

V. The Bottom Line - God is loving, just, and righteous (Jere. 9:23-24), *but* He is also *sovereign*. (Rom. 9:16-23; Job 13:15)

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord." Is. 55:8