

12. How was the rebellion transferred to our planet? Genesis 3:1-4

Note: Satan had lead Eve to view the tree of knowledge as a threat to God. If they were to eat of the tree their eyes would be "opened" and be "like God." From Satan's perspective, God was protecting His own interests by keeping Adam & Eve from eating the forbidden fruit. This lie was calculated to create in Eve's mind an unholy evaluation of who God was and make her think that there was emptiness in her life that could only be filled with a rebellious action. Think about how this lie plays out in your life.

13. What is the result of sin? Romans 6:23

Note: The Bible tells us that the result of sin is death.

14. What does sin cause between God and man? Isaiah 59:1-2

Note: According to scripture sin creates a gap between God and man. People try to fill the void in their lives that sin creates. Drugs, alcohol, money, entertainment, education, status, possessions, and achievements cannot fill the hole that sin has created. Only God can fill that gap and give us peace.

15. What did Satan want from Jesus? Matthew 4:9

Note: Rev 13:2, 4 talks about the antichrist power. When you follow the antichrist who are you really following? When people follow the antichrist they are actually following Satan's last ditch effort to cheat the world out of their relationship with God and steal the worship that only God deserves.

16. What do God's people have to look forward to? Revelation 21:3-4

Note: Heaven will be a place where pain and suffering are a thing of the past. There will be no more hospitals or funerals just peace and happiness.

MY CHOICE: Since God is a god of love and is not responsible for human suffering I want to return the love that He has given to me.

Journey With Jesus



Lesson #3 The Origin of Evil

Why do bad things happen to good people? If God is so loving and powerful, why is there so much suffering today? Why do we live in a world of pain? Here is the Bible's hope filled answer.

1. In the beginning, what was the condition of the earth? Genesis 1:31

2. What is the chief quality of God? 1John 4:8

Note: 1John 1:5 adds that "God is light and in him there is no darkness." Even though the Bible says God is love and light; it seems that when bad things happen He is blamed, why is that?

3. Who is responsible for human suffering? Matthew 13:24-30, 36-39

Note: The parable of the sower shows us that God is love and responsible for everything good and promising. God sowed the good seed, He created everything perfect and beautiful, but Satan seduced this planet into his rebellion bringing about human suffering.

4. Where did the battle between good & evil begin? Revelation 12:7-9

Note: Notice it did not say, "war in the Middle East," that would be no surprise at all, but the location of the war was in heaven! Satan led a rebellion against the government of God. The prophet John characterizes Satan as a fiery red dragon that is looking for prey (See also Luke 10:18).

5. Who was cast out of heaven with Satan? Revelation 12:3-4, 1:20

Note: Combining Revelation 1:20 (star in prophecy = angel), 12:3-4, and 12:7-9 we can safely conclude one third of the angels in heaven were cast out with Satan at the conclusion of this great war. They joined in with their rebel leader to deceive people on the earth to join in their rebellion against God. Evil angels tempt/lead people to sin against God and create misery.

6. What was the reason behind Satan's fall? Isaiah 14:12-14

Note: It is interesting to note that the word "I" appears in this passage five times. The middle letter of the words sin and pride is "I". That is how sin originated. Satan had an "I" problem. He wanted the praise and adoration that could only belong to a creator God. He said, "I will be like the most High." He wanted the worship and praise that could only belong to God.

The name Lucifer comes from joining two Latin words, Lux = light & Feros = bearer. When you put these terms together you get "light bearer." The name Satan comes from the Greek and means enemy or adversary.

7. Did God create the Devil? Ezekiel 28:14-17

Note: The Bible is clear that Lucifer was created perfect from the hand of God until Sin was found in him. He became drunk with the desire to receive worship. God is therefore not responsible for the origin of evil and suffering on our planet! Satan's rebellion is the reason for human suffering and pain. Consequently, God will destroy Satan and his angels in the lake of fire for all the misery and sin they have caused (See Eze 28:18, Rev 20:9-10).

8. What is the biblical definition for sin? 1John 3:4 (KJV is clearest)

Note: Sin is defined in the Bible as the transgression of God's holy law.

9. What's the issue in the battle over good and evil? Romans 6:16

Note: Law establishes authority, which is the reason why Satan broke God's law. He wanted to rule under his own authority. Just think of it, if you are pulled over by a police officer you are under his authority and the law/power of the state. So who you obey determines whose authority you submit to.

10. What would have happened if God would have destroyed Lucifer during his rebellion in heaven? 1John 4:18

Note: God motivates His people by love. This is the only real motive to serve God. Here is why God did not destroy Lucifer during his rebellion in heaven. Think of it, if God destroyed Lucifer, what would the other angels think? They would think that Lucifer was right and God was trying to hide something. The spirit of rebellion would have not ceased.

Another question may be asked: Why did God create Lucifer if He knew Lucifer would lead a portion of the angels and our world into rebellion? If God did not create Lucifer then he would not been given a choice. When you take away the power to choose you take away the ability to love. God is love, therefore He would give choice and carry on the work of creation.

11. What command did God give Adam & Eve? Genesis 2:16-17

Note: God simply told them not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, but Satan takes what is simple and makes it complicated. Even so, God wanted to see if Adam and Eve would be loyal to Him or if they would follow the plan of the fallen angel so there needed to be a test of loyalty. So the test of loyalty came in the form of a forbidden tree. The tree of knowledge was basically a voting booth for God or Satan. If they refused to eat from the tree of knowledge we would not have to deal with sin, suffering or pain. We have no one to blame but ourselves for sin.