

WhenGodUsesEvilForGood.com.au



© Outreach Media 2018. All rights reserved.

Evil is a difficult topic to think about objectively at the best of times. If you've only recently struggled with something terrible then you may be feeling raw and angry with God and wondering why he's allowed your life to take the path it has. But please try and put your feelings aside to consider freshly both the goodness and wisdom of God. Both these qualities are things the Bible asserts repeatedly.

The Bible has much to say about evil. It reassures us that God abhors it and promises us that, for those who trust in Jesus, a time is coming where there will be no more sadness or evil.

Yet, the difficult truth, repeated throughout the pages of the Bible, is that God uses evil to bring about good. When you're struggling with depression or a relationship breakup or the loss of a loved one then this is hard to hear. But it doesn't make it any less true. Surely, if God were good he would eradicate all evil? Surely, he would allow people to live happy lives at all times?

One day that wish will be fulfilled in place we think of as heaven. But, in the meantime, God's plan is to use evil to as a teacher leading us to wisdom. This is not such a strange idea. We've all had the experience (or at least heard) of something dreadful producing something good. For example, a bush fire or flood ravaging a community and drawing them together. Where previously there was alienation and grudge bearing, now there is love and forgiveness.

Paradoxically, the greatest evil in all history was the murder of God's only son, Jesus. When he came amongst us, Jesus was without sin. Yet mere human creatures, made of clay, murdered the creator of the whole universe! This monstrous act was always part of God's plan to save humanity from judgment. The evil intent of Jesus's murderers was within that plan - yet they were still responsible for their evil. From this greatest of all evils, came the greatest possible good for humanity. Jesus gave his life to pay for our sin at the cross.

When times are good it's easy to ignore our creator. But when things are difficult we're prompted to think. God's strongest desire is that adversity and struggle teach us the wisdom to want to draw close to him. Thankfully, Jesus's death makes that possible.

If you'd like to spend more time teasing out the ideas in this difficult topic then head to:

www.WhenGodUsesEvilForGood.com.au

Bible verse: "I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the LORD, who does all these things." (Isaiah 45:7)

Prayer: Dear God, thank you that Jesus suffered such terrible evil for my sake. Thank you for those tests and trials that lead me to trust you more.