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SEARCH FOR Certainty

Good God! Bad World! Why?
好上帝！怀世界！为何？
Making Sense of Evil

God has left His fingerprints across our world. The dazzling splendor of a sunset, the majesty of snowcapped mountain peaks, the glory of a starlit night, the beauty of an opening rosebud, and the carefree laughter of children playing speak to us of a loving God who delights in making His people happy.

Another's fingerprints give evidence that someone else stalks our planet. Ours is a world in trouble—a world consumed with war, famine, and poverty; a world writhing in sickness, disease, and sorrow.

Rising from this troubled planet like an incense of doom is the persistent question Why? Why war and suffering and heartache and death?

Doesn't God care? Are we only a forgotten cinder out on the edge of an unimportant galaxy? A world that doesn't matter? If God is a God of love, why is there so much suffering in our world? Why do the good suffer as well as the bad?

The Bible draws aside the curtain on one of life's greatest dramas allowing us to look behind the scenes in the great controversy between good and evil. Today's lesson will provide a clear answer to who is responsible for this world's suffering. It will also reveal God's ultimate solution to the problem of why innocent people suffer.

上帝将他的作为留在我们这个世界。夕阳下绚丽的晚霞，宏伟壮观的白雪山顶，灿烂夺目的繁星夜空，含苞待放的美丽玫瑰，天真无邪的嬉笑小孩，都向我们述说慈爱的上帝，使他所喜悦的子民欢喜快乐。另一个明显的迹象，是有一位看顾我们星球得主。这个世界是一个充满战争，饥荒，贫穷的世界，到处是瘟疫，疾病和忧伤的迹象。这个充满问题的星球，不断为人带出许多疑问，为什么？ 为什么有战争，痛苦，疾病和死亡？

上帝不看顾吗？难道我们只不过是一群被忘记的渣滓？一个无所谓的世界？假如上帝是一个爱的上帝，为什么有那么多的痛苦在我们这个世界中？为什么好人也遭受如此痛苦？

圣经展示了生命中最伟大的一幕剧，让我们看到画面背后善恶的大争斗。本课文为我们提供了一个清晰的答案，谁应该为这世界的痛苦负责。它将启示上帝如何为那些无辜受苦之人，提供一个最终的解决方法。

1. Is God the author of human suffering?
上帝是人类痛苦的起源吗？
耶利米书 **Jeremiah 31:3;** 约翰一书 **1 John 4:8**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

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The essence of God's nature is love. He desires only what is best for us. All of His actions toward us are loving. They are designed to produce lasting happiness. God would never do anything that is not ultimately for our best good. For God to act any other way than loving would be to act contrary to His very nature.

上帝的本性就是爱。他只渴望为我们提供最好的。他对我们所行的一切都是爱。他们被造就拥有永远的快乐。上帝从来不会做一些对我们不好的事情。因为上帝如果作一些没有爱的事情，那么，就与他的本性相违背。

2. God is not responsible for human suffering, where did it originate? 假如上帝不应为人类的痛苦负责，那么它的起源又在哪里？马太福音 **Matthew 13:24-28**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

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3. Who is the enemy?
谁是敌人？ 马太福音 **Matthew 13:39**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

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4. Since God is not the author of sin and suffering, whom did sin originate with? 由于上帝并非罪和痛苦的起源，那么，谁是罪的发起者？ 约翰一书 **1 John 3:8**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

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我的决定 MY DECISION

☐ *I accept Jesus as my Saviour and surrender my life to Him. I desire Him to rule in the kingdom of my heart. I choose Jesus as Master of my life.*
我接受耶稣作我的救主并将我的生命交给他。我渴望他管理我的心。我选择耶稣作我生命的主。

12. What promises does God give His children, who are caught in the grip of suffering and injustice?
上帝给他的儿女什么应许？谁被置身于痛苦与不义的鸿沟中？
哥林多前书 **1 Corinthians 10:13;** 以赛亚书 **Isaiah 41:13**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

In the midst of our personal suffering, God promises to be with us. He promises never to allow any temptation of the evil one to overwhelm us. He promises to provide strength to meet the temptations of each day. In tones of most tender love, He encourages us with these simple words, "Fear not, I will help you."

在我们个人的痛苦中，上帝应许与我们同在。他应许永不允许任何恶者的试探超过我们所能受的。他应许给我们力量去面对每天的试探。他用简洁的言语并以最深切之爱的语气鼓励我们，"不要怕，我会帮助你。"

13. What is Satan's ultimate fate?
撒旦最终的命运是什么？ 以西结书 **Ezekiel 28:16-19**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

Satan is soon to be defeated and destroyed. Through Calvary's cross he has been proven a liar. God is love. The principles of His government will ensure the happiness of His creatures throughout all eternity. You can be on the winning side. Why not tell Jesus, "Lord, I choose to stand with You. I accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior. I invite You to enter my life as my King"?

撒旦将要被打败及毁灭。借着加略山的十字架，他被证实是一个骗子。上帝是爱，他管理的原则，是要使他的受造物有永远的喜乐。你可以站在胜利的一方。为什么不告诉耶稣："主，我选择与你同在。我接受耶稣为我的救赎主。我愿意你进入我的生命作王。"

14. What will God eventually do with this planet?
上帝最终会为这星球做些什么？
彼得后书 **2 Peter 3:10, 13**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

5. Where did this diabolical being come from?
恶魔是从哪里来的？ 路加福音 **Luke 10:18**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

It is shocking but true. The devil originated in heaven. Oh, he was not a devil when God created him! Many people imagine the devil as dwelling in some hot spot of burning flames deep within the bowels of the earth. On the contrary, the devil fell from heaven.

这件事实令人震惊。罪恶起源于天上。他并非在上帝制造他时就是邪恶的。许多人想象恶 魔是住在地上某一深处，不断燃烧的地方，恰恰相反，恶魔是来自天上。

6. Did God create a devil?
上帝创造了恶魔吗？ 以西结书 **Ezekiel 28:12-15**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

God created Lucifer a beautiful, glorious angel. He was perfect in his ways. God gave this magnificent angel the capacity to choose. To remove the power of choice is to remove the power to love. Genuine love is not forced or coerced. It springs from divine love. To take away the power of choice is to destroy the ability to love. To destroy the ability to love is to deny the opportunity to be fully happy and completely free. Since God longs for all His creatures to be fully happy and free, He has given them the power of choice.

上帝创造路锡甫时，原是一位美丽，荣耀的天使。在受造之日所行的都完全。上帝给予这位被推崇的天使一个选择的权利。剥夺选择的权利就是剥夺了爱的权利。真实的爱是绝无胁迫或强制的。它是从神圣之爱所涌流出来的。 拿走了选择的权利就是毁坏了爱的能力。毁坏了爱的能力就是否定了有充满喜乐和完全自由的机会。上帝渴望他所有受造之物充满喜乐和自由，他给予他们选择的权利。

7. What occurred in Satan's mind to lead to open rebellion? 是什么存在于撒旦之心而引起他反叛？
以赛亚书 **Isaiah 14:12-14**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

Lucifer means “light bearer.” God created a beautiful light-bearing angel who used his position to challenge God’s authority. He wanted God’s power, not His loving character. Lucifer defiantly declared, “I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne…I will ascend above…the clouds, I will be like the Most High” (Isaiah 14:12-14, NKJV). Notice, Lucifer uses the word “I” four times. Pride gradually developed in his heart. Lucifer came to believe God was arbitrary, unfair and unjust. He concluded that he could run the heavenly government better than God.

路锡甫意思是“擎光者”。上帝创造一个美丽的“擎光天使”,他就用他的地位来挑战上帝的权能。他要上帝的能力，而不是他爱的品格，路锡甫大胆地宣称：“我要升到天上，我要高举我的宝座.....我要升到高云之上，我要与至上者同等。”（以赛亚书14：12 – 14）请注意，路锡甫曾六次（按中文）用“我”字，自傲渐渐地在他的心中成长。路锡甫越来越相信上帝是专横的，不公平的，以及不义的。他断定他来管理天上的政权要比上帝好。

8. What did this open rebellion lead to and what ultimately happened to Satan as a result?
公开的反叛引发了什么事情？撒旦最终得了一个什么结果？
启示录 **Revelation 12:7-9**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

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Every angel chose either the path of loyalty or rebellion. The same option is available to every human being. There are only two ways: the way of loyalty to God or the way of rebellion against God.

每一位天使都可选择忠心或反叛的道路，同样每一个人都有这样的选择；只有两条路，忠心与上帝的作为或反叛上帝的作为。

9. How did our world become involved in the conflict between good and evil?
我们的世界又是怎样卷入这场善恶之争？
罗马书 **Romans 5:12**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

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Through deliberate disobedience Adam, the head of the human family, opened a door God desired forever shut. His conscious choice to disobey separated him from God and resulted in death. Our world was not created as a “dumping-off” place for Satan. It was created perfect (Genesis 1:31). Through sin, Adam’s dominion was forfeited. But we must not lay all the responsibility for sin upon our first parents. The apostle Paul writes, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23, NKJV). We are sinners by birth. We inherited a sinful nature from Adam. We are also sinners by choice. Through our own deliberate disobedience we have participated in Adam’s sin of rebellion against God.

由于亚当敌意不顺从，人类家庭之主便打开了上帝渴望永远关闭之门。他有意地选择不顺从而与上帝分离以至于死。我们的世界不是为撒旦所预备的一个弃置场所。它是完美的创造（创世纪1：31）。因为罪，亚当的管治权被剥夺了，但是我们必不能因此将罪责都推到我们第一对父母身上。使徒保罗写到，“因为世人都犯了罪，亏缺了上帝的荣耀。”（罗马书3：23）我们生来就是罪人。我们继承了亚当犯罪的本性，我们都选择作为罪人。由于我们故意的不顺从，我们便继续不断在罪恶中反叛上帝。 。

10. As a result of our fall, what does Satan now claim as his? 由于我们的堕落，撒旦现在宣称他是什么？
路加福音 **Luke 4:5, 6**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

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11. What has God done to redeem this planet in rebellion?
上帝为这反叛的地球做了什么救赎工作？
约翰福音 **John 3:16;** 彼得前书 **1 Peter 1:18, 19**

圣经答案 The Bible answers: _____

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With a heart of inexhaustible, infinite love, God decided to pay the price of sin Himself. Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, came to this sin-cursed world. He entered into the arena of human affairs to redeem us from the curse of sin.

上帝以一颗无穷无尽的爱心，决定由他自己付上罪价。耶稣基督，上帝永生的儿子，来到这个被罪诅咒的世界。他来到这个人类的舞台，将我们从罪的诅咒中救赎出来。