

# IS GOD A MORAL MONSTER?

## Part 3: The Problem of Evil

### Scripture References:

- John 9:1-3
- John 11:35

**Bottom Line:** The problem of evil and suffering doesn't have to be a problem that prevents you from trusting Jesus.

### Summary:

In the final part of the "Is God a Moral Monster?" series, we explored one of the most profound and challenging questions of faith: "How could there be a good God with all the evil and suffering in the world?" This question resonates deeply, especially in light of recent tragic events, such as the Bondi junction and Wakeley Church stabbings, which remind us of the pervasive presence of evil and suffering.

The Enlightenment has shaped much of our modern thinking, leading us to believe that reason and science should provide answers to every question, including why evil and suffering exist. However, this expectation is relatively new; ancient cultures were more comfortable with the idea that some answers might be beyond human understanding.

In addressing the "Rock of Atheism"—the challenge that evil and suffering pose to belief in God—the sermon highlighted key perspectives from both New Age and Atheist worldviews. The New Age approach often downplays suffering as either an illusion or a result of karma. However, Jesus directly refutes the idea of karma in John 9:1-3, emphasizing that suffering is not always a result of personal sin but can be an opportunity for God's power to be revealed.

Atheism, on the other hand, struggles with the concept of justice without a moral lawgiver. As C.S. Lewis pointed out, recognizing injustice implies an understanding of justice, which in turn suggests the existence of a higher moral standard—God. The atheist worldview leaves us with the unsatisfactory conclusion that evil and suffering are simply "the way the world is," offering no deeper meaning or hope.

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In contrast, Christianity offers a unique response. It doesn't provide all the answers to every instance of suffering but instead presents a God who enters into our suffering. The cross of Christ is central to this understanding, where Jesus takes upon himself the brokenness of the world and offers a solution through grace. Through the cross, God not only addresses evil but also provides hope for the future—a promise that He will ultimately deal with all evil and suffering.

The message concluded with a reminder that Christianity is about a God who cares deeply, who entered our pain, and who will one day set all things right.