

## You Asked: Questions for God Week 3 – God, How Can You Allow Evil and Suffering? (Part 2)

### Week 1 Recap:

1. When God opened himself up for \_\_\_\_\_, he also opened himself up for \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Sin's entrance brought \_\_\_\_\_ from the Creator and \_\_\_\_\_ for all of creation.
3. When God shuts the door on evil and suffering, the door for \_\_\_\_\_ will also be shut.
4. God allows evil to exist so that we might see the \_\_\_\_\_ for what it is and seek \_\_\_\_\_ for who he is.

*God is not the source of suffering; he is the solution to suffering.*

### Part 1: Perspective on Present Suffering

Romans 5:1-5

*Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.*

1. Suffering is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Revelation 21:1, 4-5

*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." <sup>5</sup>He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."*

- We must view present suffering through the lens of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Suffering is a key ingredient to \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. God allows suffering because it is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Through the "press" of suffering God produces \_\_\_\_\_, character and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Pain and suffering weakens our \_\_\_\_\_ to this world and strengthens our \_\_\_\_\_ on God.

### Part 2: The Final Answer on Suffering

John 9:1-3

*As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup>"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life.*

Is God Good?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is God powerful?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why is He allowing this?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Romans 8:28-29

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*