

The “Problem” of Evil and Suffering in the Presence of an
All-knowing, All-good, All-loving, and All-powerful God (37):
Job 25-26: Theodicy and the Sovereignty of God
<http://www.fbcweb.org/sermons.html>)



Philosophical/Theological/Doctrinal & Spiritual Edification

Bible Doctrines

- Eschatology
- Thanatology
- Ecclesiology
- Israelology
- Dispensationalism
- Doxology
- Hodology
- Soteriology
- Hamartiology
- Natural Law
- Anthropology
- Angelology
- Pneumatology
- Christology
- Paterology
- Trinitarianism
- Cosmology
- Theology Proper
- Bibliology

Prolegomena

P.R. for objectivity (14)

- Hermeneutics
- Linguistics
- Epistemology
- Metaphysics
- Reality -Logic 32, Truth 32

Broad and deep understanding of BD

I am deeply concerned with the pathological thinking in Christianity. This pathology has even infected a fair amount of doctrinal believers who have wandered from their journey in Truth. This chart is my way of addressing the problem

Sacred Theology Book 2

Natural Theology Book 1

1 Corinthians 2:9 but just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And *which* have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him.

Enough BD to be overcomer

1 John 2:14, "you are strong, and the word of God abides in you"

Lacks BD, DV

Eph 4:14, children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming

Mature Believer - Level 3- Metaphysical Maturity - Extremely powerful believer

- High abstract metaphysical understanding of BD; Esse, Evil, Good, attributes of God, natural law
- Enormous capacity for synthesis of BD and grasping of spiritual realities.
- Ability for sustained contemplation of the true nature of God, e.g., the simplicity and atemporality of God.

Young adult - Level 2- Doctrinal conceptualization

-Systematic understanding of --God's Word/Truth.

Baby believer - Level 1 -

- Limited to isolated Bible verses
- Unable to apply doctrine or divine viewpoint to *all* the issues of life
- Fragmented understanding of truth.

Carnal believer lacks integration with God and Truth due to human viewpoint background

PHILOSOPHICAL REALISM FOR BIBLICAL AND DOCTRINAL OBJECTIVITY-14

1. Pathological thought is thought that is *controlled* by feelings instead of truth/reality. Pathological thinking is so mixed with emotions and the sensate that it is blind to its own pathology as feelings control the “thinking” process. These emotions or feelings can be positive or negative, conservative or liberal (cf. MRI tests) and are powerfully influential in believers choosing something as important as a church and denomination (Roman Catholic and doctrinal). What was it about the doctrinal movement that resonated with you?

PHILOSOPHICAL REALISM FOR BIBLICAL AND DOCTRINAL OBJECTIVITY-14

2. In pathological thinking words change their meaning from what is ordinary and simple to serve in some way an underlying emotional feeling or goal. Pathological thought is divorcement from reality. In pathological thinking the believer does not care about understanding the true nature of God or man. Consider how we have gotten away from serious developed understanding of the nature of God or man. Consider how we no longer think in terms of natures of things. It is all by convention. We just make up reality as we see fit, e.g. coherence truth

PHILOSOPHICAL REALISM FOR BIBLICAL AND DOCTRINAL OBJECTIVITY-14

3. Pathological thought is unable to be self-reflective, even when others point certain things out—after all, “they have ulterior motives,” and “why can’t they see their pathological thoughts.”
4. The only solution to pathological thinking is Bible doctrine and the execution of the spiritual life, all thoroughly grounded in philosophical. Bible doctrine must be anchored in philosophical realism. Apart from philosophical realism the believer is in fact a compromised Christian.

5. Philosophical Realism is the only cure of pathological thinking and the only way to obtain objectivity in biblical interpretation and Bible doctrine.

HERMENEUTICS: It is pathological for any Christian not to desire to understand what meaning means. It is impossible to ever get to objective meaning in subjectivity. It is unconscionable for PT not to teach philosophical realism because some believers do not want to think about Truth as such. A dumbed-down Christianity is a pathological Christianity, which Satan loves. How did we get here?

LINGUISTICS: It is pathological for any Christian not to understand how language works. Failure to understand language will result in superstitious view of the Word of God even in positive volition. Consider how impossible it is to talk about God without understanding univocal, equivocal, and analogical language. It is important to understand how language works in the external word and the internal word.

EPISTEMOLOGY: It is pathological for any Christian to be a Fideist. It is inexcusable for any Christian to live in subjectivity and have no desire for objectivity. Most Christians are not aware that they are children of Immanuel Kant in regard to epistemology. Fideism is the only alternative to philosophical realism.

METAPHYSICS: It is pathological for any Christian not to desire to know what makes up reality. Most Christians are pagan/naturalistic in metaphysical orientation. They have no deep understanding of natural theology, anthropopathisms, natural law, the nature of man, marriage, Esse or creation as act and potency. Metaphysics determines life. It is unconscionable for any Christian to reject the study of metaphysics or not have a metaphysics on things like human nature, government, and God. Can you defend your metaphysics on government?

REALITY: It is pathological for any Christian not to desire Truth, Total Truth, Correspondence Truth. Rejection of logic (laws of reality), and adoption of pragmatic, sensate, existential, religious, or aesthetic views of truth is pathological. Consider the epidemic of pathological thinking regarding Truth in Christianity today. It is unconscionable for any Christian to reject the study of Reality for an exchange of religion or ear tickling or pragmatism.

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Unlike a believer in any previous dispensation, the Church Age believer has the unique privilege of being permanently indwelt by God the Holy Spirit:

John 14:16-17 "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; 17 that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you (παρ' ὑμῖν μένει καὶ ἐν ὑμῖν ἔσται).

John 16:7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper (ὁ παράκλητος) shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

1 Corinthians 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

2. The believer's relationship with God the Holy Spirit is the single greatest determiner of the spiritual health of any believer. There is no defeater for the Holy Spirit either in knowing the Truth or living out the Truth.
3. The Holy Spirit enables the believer to have power over the OSHGEN and live according to second-order doctrinal desires.

Galatians 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. 17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

John 14:16 "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; 17 that is the Spirit of truth,

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

4. The Holy Spirit enables the believer to grasp the supernatural aspects of the Word of God,

1 Corinthians 2:12-15 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God, 13 which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. 14 But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. 15 But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no man.

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

4. (cont) The Holy Spirit enables the believer to grasp the supernatural aspects of the Word of God,

1 Corinthians 2:9-10 but just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And which have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

5. The mandate is to keep on being filled with the Spirit, Eph. 5:18. Here is how:
 - a. In the Spirit be walking, Gal 5:16.
 - b. Quench not the Spirit, 1 Thess. 5:19.
 - c. Grieve not the Spirit, Eph. 4:30.

Ephesians 4:30-31 And do not grieve (μὴ λυπεῖτε) the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

JOB 25-26

Bildad and Job

A. Bildad to Job, Job 25.

1. The sovereignty of God, 25:1-3.
2. Man is incurably unrighteous and less than a maggot, 25:4-6.

B. Job to Bildad, Job 26.

1. What a lousy and ignorant friend you are, 26:1-4.
2. The sovereignty of God, 26:5-14.

DOCTRINAL PRINCIPLES

1. Although the book of Job provides a fantastic insight into theodicy, virtually no one sees it. Further, most end up thinking and teaching just what Job's compadres thought and taught.
2. Although we never know *exactly* what *all* God is doing in His sovereign will of suffering, all suffering is from the love of God to make us better and draw us to Him. We do know the point of it all!

DOCTRINAL PRINCIPLES

3. One of the greatest blessings in life is to understand that all sufferings in life are calls from God to come to Him.
4. It should not surprise any believer when he sees the wicked prosper in this life. This is exactly what the Bible teaches, confer Psa. 73:3-13.

DOCTRINAL PRINCIPLES

5. God is involved in the prosperity of the wicked as well for the righteous. He knows exactly what He is doing with the wicked. For some, it is the only time He gets the opportunity to express His love for them to enjoy some modicum of happiness. For others, it is precisely His grace, patience, and kindness that leads to their change of mind.

Romans 2:4 Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness (χρηστότητα , benevolence in action) and forbearance and patience, not knowing that the kindness (τὸ χρηστὸν) of God leads you to ~~repentance~~ a change of mind (εἰς μετάνοιάν σε ἄγει)

Romans 9:22 What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath preparing themselves for destruction?

DOCTRINAL PRINCIPLES

6. There is a far greater theological problem with a “believer” who does not suffer than for the wicked who does not suffer.

Hebrews 12:4-11.