

Why Does God Allow Evil – The Evil Conundrum

Mark 6: 14-29

A man with a beard and mustache, wearing a grey hoodie and a grey baseball cap with an American flag patch, is looking upwards with a questioning expression. The background is a light-colored wooden wall. The text "If God Is Good, Why Does He Allow Evil?" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**If God
Is Good,
Why Does
He Allow
Evil?**

Verse 14 - 16

Conscience – Even evil has one!

It may not seem like it, but all humans have a conscience, even Herod

CONSCIENCES IN SCRIPTURE:

Weak – untrained, immature; overly sensitive

Good – clear, clean; free from guilt

Seared – hardened, desensitized; cannot feel pain

Defiled – morally strained or corrupted; cannot judge right and wrong

Evil – guilty, burdened by the weight of sin

Herod is exhibiting an evil conscience (guilty, burdened by his sin)

Jesus' redemptive work can free anyone from any conscience issue

Even a psychopath can be given a transformed mind, through Christ!

God is a miracle worker you know!

Verse 17 - 29

Confrontation – Evil hates righteousness

Herod captures John and throws
him in prison; his crime?

Confrontation of evil

John confronted evil – you are living
in a dying culture overlooking evil!



FIRST WE OVERLOOK EVIL.
THEN WE PERMIT EVIL.
THEN WE LEGALIZE EVIL.
THEN WE PROMOTE EVIL.
THEN WE CELEBRATE EVIL.
THEN WE PERSECUTE THOSE
WHO STILL CALL IT EVIL.

**"Woe unto them who call evil
good, and good evil."**

Isaiah 5:20a



Who wanted John dead?

Herodias, the adulteress – *“wanted to kill him, but she could not”*

Evil Herodias waited for an opportune time

For Herodias – *“Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles.”*

At his birthday party, her daughter danced for him (*SEDUCTIVE*)

The unwise lust promise, “ . . . *whatever you want, I will give it to you.*”

Conspiring with mom she asks for *“the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”*

WHY did God allow this evil to happen?

This is a universal human issue, WHY?

Closing Thoughts
The Evil Conundrum

Conundrum = a confusing and difficult problem that has no easy answer

How can a loving God allow all this evil in the world?

THINK:

Why doesn't God eliminate evil now?
Who would He start with? Maybe you?

For no one is righteous in God's sight unless saved by faith in Christ alone

Brothers and Sisters, we must deal with the evil conundrum OR
is it a conundrum?

In my simplistic mind, I must take the problem back to the problem creator – **SATAN!**

There is a real devil and a real temptation of Adam and Eve – *the Bible says so!*

Evil came into God's perfect creation because of SIN!

“Sin and evil originated from the misuse of the will”
(Clay Jones – “Why does God allow evil?”)

God created humanity and the angelic realm with the ability to choose contrary to Him

You have been made in the image of God. Because God is free, He made His higher creation free

God created mankind in His image, with the capacity to truly love;
genuine love demands a choice!

The Bible is crystal clear on why there is evil in this world

If one believes the Biblical narrative, the conundrum of evil is NOT a
conundrum at all

Bart Earhman and Charles Templeton began to doubt and disbelieve the
Bible

*To disbelieve the prohibition of God, don't eat of that tree, the
creation narrative, catapulted them into atheism, NO GOD!*

The reason for evil being present in our world is simply a consequence
of rebellion against GOD!

Each of us must deal with - is the Bible true? – the Word of God?

This is the question that must be answered!!

The following will help you to know the Bible is true:

*The acronym F.A.C.E.S.
(see handout)*

When a person settles on the fact that the Bible is true, the conundrum of evil is easily explained

The Bible also tells us that one day Jesus will return and deal with evil in this world

Until then, stand by and stand faithfully, the God you believe in is TRUE – the Bible says so!

**The Word of God in your hands is TRUE!
Jesus says so, “*Your Word is truth*” - John 17: 17**

HE WHO IS COMING IS TRUE!

***TRUST HIM AND THERE WILL BE NO MORE
CONUNDRUMS ABOUT EVIL FOR YOU!***

***EVIL IS A CONSEQUENCE OF
REBELLION AGAINST GOD***

IT IS JUST THAT SIMPLE!!