

# **God and Good and Bad and the Problem of the Origin of Evil**

***Abstract:** Upon pondering the age-old question of the origin of evil, I came up with this idea. I could be way off base and I am not presumptuous enough to assume that I can answer a question of which even the great Augustine said: I don't know. However, it is worthwhile discussing.*

The Bible says that God is not the author of evil/sin. Yes it says that God created everything, and anything that was created, was created by Him. Now this puts us in a dilemma when it comes to evil. If God is not the author of evil then where did it come from? One possible answer to this is that evil is not the presence of anything, but the absence of God's grace. I want to extend that answer into an added dimension - literally.

## **Gen 2:18**

*18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."*

It was not good for Adam to be alone.

God had created Adam. What God had created was good. Yet God himself says: It is not good for Adam to be alone.

Thus this implies that God can create something good but if he stops in the midst of it, it can be "not good". Or it would be bad if God stopped. So in other words, bad could be caused if God did something partially. But since God is "good" he doesn't do anything partially. However it could be that we have just made a decision about good and bad while God was in the midst of completing something. It doesn't mean that bad is caused by God, but that good is not caused until the work is completed.

What this means is that there is a "good" and "bad" associated with time. There is a morality associated with the temporal dimension. And since God is omnipresent in Time this morality disappears for Him. But for us in time, this morality can manifest itself.

E.g. the earth was void and without form. This is chaos, yet it does not mean that God creates Chaos, but where did the chaos come from? It appeared in time as God moved it nothing from one state to another to its final state of a full creation. So God is not the creator of chaos, but chaos will appear to us temporal beings as God moves something to chaos to something of beauty.

So the question is: Could this then explain where Sin comes from? God moves in time, he is out of time and above time, so he does not create sin, but where he stops...or where he stops his hand, he allows sin. He allows chaos? But he does not create it.

Who knows...

Now let's take the example of a note. On it's own a note is pure and it is beautiful. However if we take a sequence of notes that are pure and string them together we can end up with a tune that is not beautiful and hurts our senses (I'm not talking about volume). In the same way is it possible for a tune that is almost finished but not complete yet to leave us unsatisfied, i.e. be bad. All that is missing is the completion of that one last note to make that tune good. Perhaps that's where evil comes from. The tune is not finished. Each part of the tune is good in itself, but strung together the tune as long as it is in the process of being finished it is "not good." When it is done it will be good. All that it takes now is time and completion.

Add to this that God is outside of time so there is no time for him. So while he comprehends fully how we view it. The tune is always completed for him, but we see the incomplete tune and we experience the "not good" part of it.

Who knows...

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