

Why Does God allow things to happen?

by Bruce Woolard

It's human and normal to ask the question:

“Why does God allow atrocities and suffering to continue?”

There are several simplistic answers that seem trite and implausible.

We experience pain and pleasure, day and night, success and failure. These paradoxes occur because we are human. If there were no negatives, how would we appreciate the positives? How would we measure our progress and success, unless we have tasted disappointment and failure?

We are governed by time, space and matter (material). This is what makes us human. We are born and we die. That's the simple reality of life. Accepting our mortality is to discover the reality of the continuity of the soul. The body dies, but the soul is immortal.

God, our Creator, is above time and space. He sees yesterday, today and tomorrow as one eternal now. The child that dies in infancy is a human tragedy, but God receives the soul of that precious child into His spiritual and eternal home where suffering and death is no more.

God has given to mankind the blessing of choice, but tragically we often use the power of choice unwisely that brings a curse. What is a curse? It's simply the absence of blessing. The unfolding drama of life on earth persists, because God in His patience and wisdom, allows the human race to

realise that we are part of the bundle of life and that the human collective choice creates this bundle.

Believing in God doesn't immunise us from life's challenges, but it certainly helps us to know that despite our doubts and confusion, God is a constant and never changes. He is the solution to the problem of suffering, because nothing catches Him by surprise. He knows, He cares and will see us through the dark valleys and treacherous pathway.

We have a freewill. We are not robots that God controls. He gives us the freedom of choice. Sadly, we as human beings, make bad decisions that lead to bad outcomes. Faith in God is to trust His judgement in allowing tragedy so that we can experience triumph.

The time will come and it is soon approaching when God will say enough is enough and He will usher in His glorious plan and peace on earth.

Romans 8:37-39 *“Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

