

Why evil? PART ONE

Why humanity's awful suffering and heartache and sin?

In the Bible God gives definite and satisfying answers. He reveals how he is settling vital issues, plus the wonderful outcome he has planned.

At the garden of Eden rebellion, God did not delay taking action. He promptly passed sentence. See Genesis chapter 3. But issues were raised there that must be settled *for eternity*. **First**, Satan had raised a moral issue - disputing God's truthfulness. If your reputation were at stake, would you expect to be heard in reply? Of course. And it is no different for God. But this would take time.

Second, God also foresaw a further issue that would arise - a calling into question of the integrity of God's people. This is graphically illustrated in Job 1.7-12.

Third, although time is needed to resolve these issues, the Bible clearly shows that God has set a limit. History has a definite climax.

But why six thousand years? The fact is that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 2 Peter 3.8.

So, as God sees it, his toleration of wickedness has only lasted about six days!

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God is holding back the End because he doesn't want anyone lost. He's giving everyone space and time to change.”
– 2 Peter 3.9 (*The Message*)

Ken Packer