

Why evil? PART TWO

God's reputation was at stake when Satan used his God-given freedom to challenge the Creator's integrity. Genesis chapter 3.

So, **first**, there was only one way to prove whether rebellion against God could bring good results - let Satan control our planet for a time! Accordingly “the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. 1 John 5.19.

Would Satan's rule prove better than God's? Would man's independence from God be a better choice?

Second, God gave ample time for this experiment which now approaches its fearsome climax. The genocide, totalitarianism, materialism, immorality, and terrorism of the twentieth and twentyfirst centuries are a powerful demonstration that the way of rebellion is a total failure. Now that the results are in, a *precedent for eternity* has been established. We have the clearest proof that man cannot prosper when out of harmony with God.

Third, during this experiment Satan boasted that men only serve God for selfish reasons - see Job 1.6-12 - but over the centuries true believers demolished this lie of Satan. See especially Hebrews chapter 11.

Fourth, God's end-time message is brief and to the point - I will be exalted among the nations.” Psalm 46.10. The time for that is now very near.

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“Let the nations be glad and sing for joy! For you shall judge the people righteously, and govern the nations on earth. Psalm 67.4.

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