

No. 1 **Why our sad world?**

Why does God allow our world of sin and suffering and shame?

First, God isn't running this world! Have we forgotten that the world was handed over to Adam – and to you and me and everyone else. God isn't running this world – we are!

To Adam (and Eve), “God said . . . 'be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.' ” Genesis 1.28.

Through what God gave us, does everyone on earth have plenty to eat? They should have. “God said, 'See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.' ” Genesis 1.29.

“God saw everything that he had made, and indeed it was very good.” Genesis 1.31.

Second, so what went wrong? Adam and Eve were persuaded that God lied to them. See Genesis 3.1-5. Sadly, the human race is still following Adam and Eve's example.

Third, imagine the difference we would see if, instead, our world was following God!

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The world hopes for the best, but Jesus Christ offers the best hope.

Ken Packer