

## **Why is there suffering and evil in the world?**

The pain and suffering you see in the world today—and as you look back in history—is the result of mankind’s sin. God created the first human beings, Adam and Eve, to live in a perfect world—without sin or suffering—and in a perfect relationship with each other and with Him. When Adam and Eve chose to disobey the only rule God gave them, they allowed pain and death to come into the world. Their disobedience affected their relationship with God, with each other, and even with the earth and the rest of creation.

Even though it was human beings who disobeyed God and brought sin into the world, it was God who provided the remedy: He sacrificed His only Son so that people could be made right with God again and live in the way He created them to live: Loving Him and loving each other. The Bible says that Jesus “gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age” (Galatians 1:4). Though we will live in a sinful world until we die, those who put their trust in Jesus have the assurance of eternal salvation, in a world free from sin, sickness, and death: For Jesus “will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him” (Hebrews 9:28).

### **Verses**

“The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. The LORD is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works” (Psalm 145:8, 9).

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).

“For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive” (1 Corinthians 15:22, 23).