Why do innocent children get sick? Why do families suffer terrible tragedies? And if God is so good, why doesn't He do something about it?

Those are fair questions. But are you willing to consider the answers?

First, you need to understand something. God didn't create man to suffer and die. Sin brought death into this world.

The Bible tells us:

> *Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*
> Romans 5:12 (KJV)

When Adam sinned, everything changed. We now live in a world affected by sin. That doesn't mean everyone who suffers is being punished for something they personally did (John 9:1–3).

But why doesn't God stop it?

Well, let me ask you something. If God immediately judged every sin, where would that leave you? Where would it leave any of us?

God is patient, giving sinners an opportunity to repent (2 Peter 3:9). His patience should never be mistaken for approval of sin. And we cannot presume to know why He allows every tragedy.

HARD QUESTIONS. STRAIGHT ANSWERS.

ONE LAST QUESTION

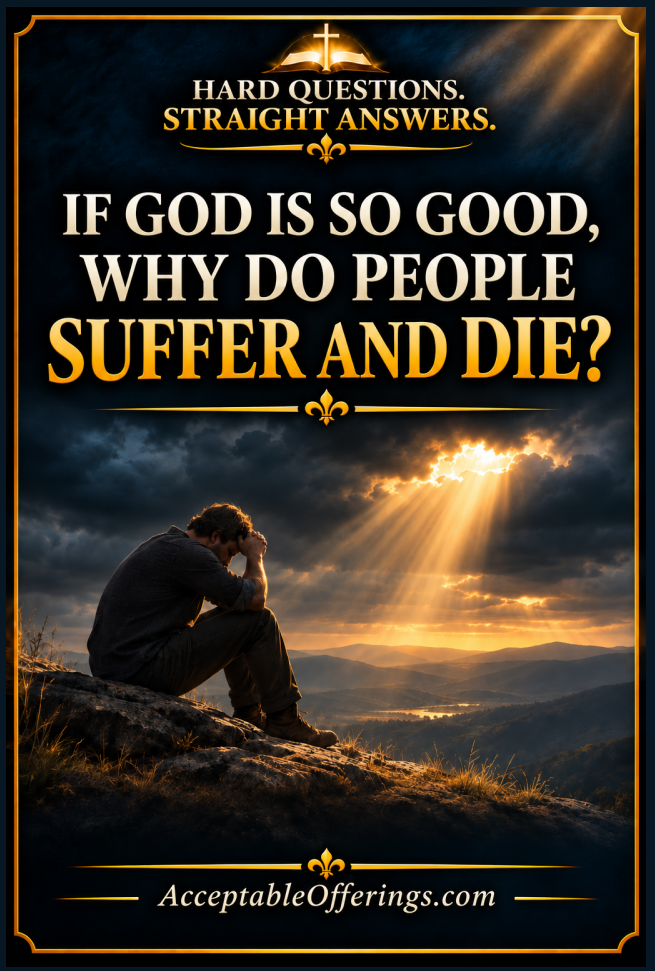
You may never understand why God allows a particular tragedy. But you can know what He has done to save you from your sins.

So instead of demanding that God answer to you, perhaps you ought to consider this:

Are YOU prepared for the day you must answer to HIM?

Hard Questions. Straight Answers.
An Acceptable Offerings Bible Tract
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All Scripture quotations: King James Version (KJV)



Here's something else worth considering.

Many people want nothing to do with God's authority. They don't want His commandments, His standards, or His judgment.

But let something terrible happen, and suddenly they're demanding to know why God didn't intervene!

Well, which is it?

You want God to leave you alone when it comes to how you live, but you expect Him to step in when things go wrong.

GOD IS NOT ONE OF US!

He's the Creator. We're His creation. We don't get to decide how God ought to behave. He doesn't answer to us. We answer to Him.

But What About Christians?

Don't Christians suffer too? Of course they do!

Being saved doesn't mean you'll never experience sickness, tragedy, or hardship. Sometimes God allows difficulties that become opportunities to comfort others or share the gospel (2 Corinthians 1:3–4).

HARD QUESTIONS. STRAIGHT ANSWERS.

The Apostle Paul asked God three times to remove an affliction. Notice God's answer:

> *For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.*
>
> *And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

2 Corinthians 12:8–9 (KJV)

Did you catch that?

God didn't remove Paul's affliction. He gave him the grace to endure it!

Christians may suffer and grieve, but they know this life isn't all there is. Their hope is in Heaven, not in a trouble-free life on earth.

HARD QUESTIONS. STRAIGHT ANSWERS.

Has God Done Anything About Suffering?

He certainly has!

God sent Jesus Christ to die for sinners. Christ was buried and rose again, providing the way of salvation through repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21).

And for those who belong to Christ, God has promised:

> *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

Revelation 21:4 (KJV)

That promise doesn't mean everyone goes to Heaven. Salvation is through Jesus Christ alone.

Final question on back panel