

CLASS 10: THEODICY: THE QUESTION OF GOD AND EVIL

10.1 INTRODUCTION

- Theologians call the study of “God” and “justice” _____.

- The “Problem” Defined:

1) God is all-_____ (Psalm 106:1; 119:68)

2) God is all-_____ (Jeremiah 32:17)

10.2 THE BEGINNING OF EVIL

Genesis 1:31 –

1) God’s original _____ was without evil.

Genesis 2:16-17 –

2) God gave humans freedom to choose between obedience and _____

Romans 5:12 –

3) Death and sin entered the world through Adam’s _____.

10.3 GOD AND EVIL

1) Many passages indicate God has absolute _____ over evil and disasters.

Amos 3:6b –

Proverbs 21:1 –

Exodus 4:21; 7:13; 8:15 –

Jeremiah 25:9, 12 –

2) God’s sovereignty directs both evil and good _____

A) Nothing happens outside God’s sovereign _____.

B) God is never _____ of doing evil.

C) _____, Satan and the _____ are assigned blame for sin and evil.

3) God has a purpose for sin and evil, for His _____

Proverbs 16:4 –

Isaiah 45:7 –

Romans 8:28 –

4) We may not always understand God's _____ in regard to sin and evil,
but we are called to _____ in His goodness.

Isaiah 55:8-9 –

5) Trials and difficulties often have a _____ effect on a believer's life.

James 1:2-4 –

Romans 5:3-5 –

1 Peter 4:12-13 –

10.4 THE ULTIMATE EXAMPLE

Acts 2:22-23 –

Acts 4:27-28 –

John 17:4 –

10.5 RESOURCES

John Piper, *Coronavirus and Christ*

D. A. Carson, *How Long, O Lord? Reflections on Suffering and Evil*.

John Feinberg, *The Many Faces of Evil: Theological Systems and the Problem of Evil*.

Bonus Topic: Bible Translations and the KJV Debate

1) RESOURCES

Gordon Fee & Mark Strauss, *How to Choose a Translation for All Its Worth*.

D. A. Carson, *The King James Version Debate: A Plea for Realism*

James R. White, *The King James Only Controversy*

2) BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

A) All Bible translations are really _____

B) The goal of Bible translation is to translate the _____ of the original text

C) There are three primary approaches to Bible translation:

1) _____ Equivalence – word-for-word translation

2) _____ Equivalence – thought-for-thought translation

3) _____ – rewording the text in loose, contemporary English

D) Every translation lies on a _____ between these options.

E) All versions face numerous _____ when translating the Bible.

1) Sometimes _____ have more potential senses (“semantic range”) in the original language than they do in English.

_____ determines what a word means.

2) Sometimes words change in _____ over time.

3) Some texts use _____ that cannot be reproduced into English.

4) Translators must decide how to deal with _____

5) Translators must decide how to translate cross-_____

6) Translators must determine how to translate _____ into the new language.

7) Translators must determine when to retain _____-specific language.

F) It is helpful to use _____ translations from different translation _____ when studying the Bible (if you don’t know Hebrew/Greek).

3) THE KJV DEBATE

A) History of the NT Text

1) The NT text has been passed down to us in many different manuscript _____.

A) _____ – These date the earlier, most from 2nd-4th c. AD.

B) _____ – Generally, about 4th-10th c. AD.

C) _____ – 9th-15th c. AD.

2) The NT text has also been preserved in many different _____ - _____.

A) Byzantine

B) Western

C) Alexandrian

D) Caesarean

B) History of the KJV

- Dutch scholar Desiderius Erasmus (1469-1536) published first edition of Greek NT in _____.

- In _____, King James commissioned a translation to be used in all the churches of England.

- It was completed and published in _____.

- The term “_____ - _____” was coined in 1633, by an advertising blurb in the second edition of the KJV.

C) KJV-ers

- Those who believe the KJV is *the* inspired Bible usually argue the following:

- 1) The Byzantine manuscripts were _____.
- 2) The mass distribution of the Byzantine manuscripts demonstrate the early church favored them and thus God providentially _____ this text tradition above all others for the church.
- 3) The “_____ text” uses incorrect and biased text-critical methods originating in ungodly individuals.

D) Response to KJV-ers

- 1) The eclectic text is based on _____ manuscripts.
- 2) _____ is more important than _____ when it comes to manuscripts.
- 3) God’s providence also preserved other non-Byzantine text-types.
- 4) The KJV was immediately _____ and revised.
- 5) The KJV has _____ omissions and additions that it charges other versions with having.

E) Errors and Oddities in the KJV

- 1) At least _____ passages in the KJV are not attested by any Greek manuscript.
- 2) KJV has clear translational _____.
- 3) KJV uses _____ language that does not communicate the same thing today as it did when it was written.

F) Conclusion

- The KJV version is an excellent translation of the Bible.

But it is only a translation!

- There are typically two reasons people continue to argue so vociferously for the KJV:

1) _____

2) _____