



Suffering			Christian Responses		Key word	Definition	
1	Does suffering have purpose?	Some does, e.g. childbirth is painful but leads to new life.	1	Should Christians pray?	Prayer is a way of seeking support and guidance in hard times. It encourages trust	Evil	Someone or something that is inherently wicked or immoral
2	Why suffering doesn't have purpose	Some suffering is so bad that it shouldn't be justified e.g. the Holocaust	2	Should they help?		Natural evil	Caused by events that have nothing to do with humans, and which are to do with the way the world is, e.g. natural disasters such as volcanic eruptions, floods or earthquakes.
3	The Problem of Evil?	If God is all-loving, knowing and powerful, why do He let evil exist?	3	Should they believe?		Suffering	The state of undergoing pain, distress, or hardship
4	Inconsistent Triad?	Evil defeats belief in God	4	Should we embrace evil?		Morals	The standards of behaviour and principles of right and wrong.
5	Examples	Natural Disasters, viruses, human illness, wars			Irenaeus suggested that evil exists to bring moral growth. We learn from hardship and will become better people. Everyone will be rewarded for their perseverance in heaven	Benevolent	All loving
						Omniscient	All knowing
						Omnipotent	All powerful
						Justifiable	Able to be shown to be right or reasonable; defensible.
Original Sin			Can we forgive God?			Unjustifiable	Not able to be shown to be right or reasonable.
1	When did Original Sin begin?	It happened after the Fall, in Genesis 3 of the Old Testament	1	Why might we blame God?	Evils like the Holocaust were so tragic that it seems ridiculous for God to allow it to happen	Moral evil	Suffering caused by humans acting in a way that is considered morally wrong e.g. bullying, murder, rape, theft or terrorism
2	How did it begin?	Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command and so were punished. They thought they could be as powerful as God.	2	Elie Weisel?	A Holocaust survivor who stopped believing in God	Freewill	God has given people free will – the ability to choose between right and wrong for themselves.
3	What it its impact?	We feel guilt, greed and are more likely to be sinful.	3	Eva Mozez Kor?	A Holocaust survivor whose faith allowed her to forgive the Nazis		
4	Impact on the world?	There are wars, cruelty, slavery and other evils.					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>The Problem of Evil is a very old, philosophical problem for the Abrahamic faiths</i><i>Many theists choose to accept the problem of evil but also trust that God will save them from such sin.</i><i>Modern scholars like Hannah Arendt believe that evil is nothing.... Do you agree?</i>				

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			1	Why might we blame God?		Moral evil	
			2	Elie Weisel?		Freewill	
			3	Eva Mozes Kor?			



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- Many theists choose to accept the problem of evil but also trust that God will save them from such sin.*
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