

Sermon Notes

Fall Apologetics Series - Answering Bart Ehrman Week 5 - "Ehrman's Root Problem"

Week 1: **Jesus** being a **historical** person, is **central** to the message of **salvation**.

Week 2: The **copies** of the **NT** manuscripts are **closer** to their original writings than the **majority** of ancient documents, and there are **more** of them.

Week 3: God's **word** is **inerrant** in that it is **trustworthy** and **authoritative**, and **infallible** in **purpose** of communicating the way to **salvation**.

Week 4: God wants us to be **assured** that we have his **intended inspired** word.

Week 5 - The Problem of Suffering

Ehrman's Problem: If **God** were **good** and **all-powerful**, then there would be **no suffering** in the world.

The **Theoretical** Problem:

- 1) If there is a **wholly good** and **all-powerful** being, then there should be **no evil** or **suffering**.
- 2) There **is** evil and suffering
- 3) Therefore there is **no** wholly good and all-powerful being.

Four Stances in Response:

- 1) **Evil** is a **counterpoint** to **good**.
- 2) Evil is **necessary** to bring about good.
- 3) The universe is **better** with a **little** evil in it.
- 4) Evil comes from a **creature's free will**.

The **Practical** Problem:

Scripture's **answer** to the **practical** problem of **evil** is to **sit** and have **compassion** on those who **suffer**.

Scripture Reference: **Romans** 12:15

Scripture Reference: **Galatians** 6:2

Scripture Reference: **Matthew** 25:35-36

In a world where **sin** has **brought** suffering, God works **through** it to bring about his **goodness**, because **he suffers** with those who suffer.

Scripture Reference: **Hebrews** 4:15

Challenge:

Wrestle with the problem of evil and the four snatches presented to see which one is Scripturally the best answer.