



Thru God's Eye: Life in the REAL World

What Went Wrong? The Problem of Evil, and of God

Crossroads, October 9, 2011 - Mark Bickel



Intro

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

1) The Problem of Evil

- **Problem: If all-powerful, good God, why is there Evil?**

- **Biblical Answers:**
 - James 1:13-15

 - Revelation 20:10

 - Genesis 3

 - Genesis 6:5-7

 - Romans 1

2) The Problem of Suffering

- **Problem:** If God is Sovereign and Loving how can he send floods, earthquakes, famine ...

- **Biblical Answers:**
 - Amos 4:6-13

 - Luke 13:1-5

 - Habakkuk 3: 16-19

 - Romans 1:18-19

3) Why Me?

- **Problem:** Why did God choose to send me this particular suffering

- **Biblical Answers:**
 - Job 1 & 2

 - 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

4) The REAL Problem

- Real Problem: How can a just and Holy God do any good to us?
- Real Answers: (come back in 2 weeks!)

Conclusions and Applications

Recommended Reading:

When God Interrupts: Finding New Life Through Unwanted Change by M. Craig Barnes

When God Weeps: Why Our Sufferings Matter to the Almighty by Joni Eareckson Tada and Steven Estes

Why Does It Have To Hurt? The Meaning of Christian Suffering by Dan G. McCartney

NEXT WEEK: Community Dinner

In TWO WEEKS: What About Religion? Can it Meet Our Most Basic Needs?



October / November Calendar

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
9 6:30 Crossroads What Went Wrong? The problem of evil and good	10 6:00 Sports Basketball in Grace Gym	11	12	13 8:00 Bible Study "Weird" - Time	14	15
16 6:30 Crossroads ** Special Night - Community Dinner	17 6:00 Sports Basketball in Grace Gym	18	19	20 8:00 Bible Study "Weird" - Rest	21-22 Evangelism Workshop Fri. 7pm – Sat. noon New Beginnings BFC	
23 6:30 Crossroads What About Religion? Can it meet our most basic needs?	24 6:00 Sports Basketball in Grace Gym	25	26	27 8:00 Bible Study Open Forum	28	29 5:00 Men's Night at Grace Sports, Games, Pizza...
30 6:30 Crossroads Does Love Win? Heaven, Hell and the End of Life as We Know it.	31 6:00 Sports Basketball in Grace Gym	1	2	3 8:00 Bible Study "Weird" - Money	4 7:00 IS Bowling	5

Upcoming Events

Sunday October 16

Community Dinner – if you want to help with food for the dinner talk to Naomi. We also need 2 people to help with set-up, see Mark if you can help

Friday / Saturday October 21-22

Evangelism Seminar led by Dan Williams at New Beginnings BFC in Woodberry Heights, NJ
(Friday 7pm – Sat. noon, cost \$5 for workbook)

Saturday October 29 at 5:00 pm

Men's Night Out at Grace – Sports, Games and Pizza

Friday November 4 at 7:00 pm

Go with International Students Bowling

Stay in Touch!

Web: GraceBFC.org/Crossroads
Facebook: Crossroads Young Adult Community
Email: mbickel@gracebfc.org

Mark Your Calendars

Week of Nov. 13 – 20

Grace BFC Missions Conference

Week of Nov. 20

International Student Thanksgiving

February 10-12, 2012

Crossroads Winter Retreat

Other Events of Interest

Sign Language: Thursday 7-8 pm, see Jesse

* **BFC Tanzania Project Banquet:** Friday night
Nov. 11 at Cedar Crest BFC, Allentown

* **Quakertown Regional Conference on Reformed Theology: Our Great God**
– Friday night Nov. 11 and Saturday Nov. 12 with Bryan Chapell, Kevin DeYoung, Stephen Nichols and Richard Phillips

* **Mark Bickel is attending both events above, and can give you more info!**