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Dear Associates and Friends,

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When you read this month's article "[Why Does God Allow War](#)" by Dr. Ernest L. Martin, you may think the title does not fit the subject. But read the article to the end and you will see that Dr. Martin's message is profound and does indeed have to do with war. War is one of the greatest evils of humanity, whether wars between men or wars that God inflicted (in the flood) or will inflict upon men in the future (the wrath of God). All evil has to do with the sovereignty of God. God causes evil, as you will read, and He is responsible for all evil that occurs. If not, then God is not sovereign and He does not control His own creation. God is responsible for evil, and He shall fix evil, as well as sin and death for every human being when the plan of God our Father and Christ plan is fulfilled (1 Corinthians 15:20–28).

Why do you suffer? Why do your loved ones suffer? Dr. Martin's evidence from Scripture will go a long way toward explaining why bad things happen to every human being who has ever lived or ever will live. God's creation, while done for our benefit, was not done for our pleasure.¹ It was done to glorify Himself and extend the benefits of His glory to His children and to all of His creation.

The information in this article is contained briefly in [ABCs of the Gospel](#), the explanation in this article of the purpose of evil in God's creation may very well help you understand, and even endure evil. Dr. Martin's more systematic presentation of biblical theology is in his book, [Essentials of New Testament Doctrine](#). Adam and all those born of him and Eve will be saved, including you and me. All will be raised to immortality. All will be glorified. It is God's will (1 Timothy 2:4–5), and His will (even His merest whim) will not ultimately be thwarted. It will be fulfilled when He sees fit to do so.²

The plan for the salvation of all was made and agreed to between God the Father (YHWH) and His firstborn Son (the first creation of God, Colossians 1:15; Revelation 3:14, just as He was the firstborn of the dead, Colossians 1:18). That plan was formulated before the foundation of the world (John 17:24; Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 1:20). Our redemption through Christ was not a "Plan B" that became necessary because of Adam's sin. The event of sin in Eden was part of God's plan. Evil also resulted from Adam's sin.

Thank You

Sin has been dealt with by Christ on the tree of crucifixion. But evil continues even for believers in Christ's redemption. Many believers turn from the faith because they cannot fathom a loving God causing such evil to His beloved children. However, remember Christ's words: **"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent"** (Revelation 3:19).³

It is our joy to get this mature information out to people all over the world. Your support makes it possible for us to do so. People that you and we at ASK will not meet until we are resurrected together, are able to read, listen, and study ASK material because you support this ministry. We all sow, God brings the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6–7). Thank you.

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¹ We may hate God's allowance of evil so much, it may build resentment within us. See my article "[Forgiving God](#)."

² "[Universal Salvation and Free Will](#)", my March 15, 2017 Commentary, explains who is truly free in every way.

³ If you think chastisement means a scolding, a mild rebuke, a light slap, see Luke 23:16, 22 where Pilate said he would "chastise" Jesus, as He predicted in Luke 18:33. This involved a vicious and bloody Roman scourging as we are told in Matthew 10:17, 20:19, 23:34, 27:26; Mark 10:34, 15:15; and John 2:15, 19:1.