



GLC
APOLOGETICS PRESENTS:

WHERE IS GOD IN THE MIDST OF PAIN AND SUFFERING?

Mr. Dan Paterson

NAME _____

CONTACT INFO: _____

TEASER: No one can escape the problem of pain, and in the face of immense suffering, you may be tempted to run away from a belief in God – concluding He either doesn't exist or doesn't care. But what if there's more to this issue than first meets the eye? In this talk Dan uses his own story of suffering to take you on a journey of wrestling with Christianity's response to a deeply personal question we all grapple with.

A. Running from God: In Search of Other Answers

QUESTION: “When you are tempted to run away from God in the face of suffering, have you stopped to ask to what?”

Buddhism:

Atheism:

Hinduism:

B. Questioning God: Testing the Intellectual Waters

“Is God willing to prevent evil, but not able? Then he is not omnipotent. Is God able to prevent evil, but not willing? Then he is malevolent. Is He both able and willing? Then whence cometh evil? Is He neither able nor willing? Then why call him God?”

Epicurus (341-270BC)

Assumption #1 – An all-powerful God can do anything.

Assumption #2 – An all-loving God would choose a world without suffering.

Assumption #3 – Suffering is evil or wrong for humanity to experience.

C. Experiencing God: Hope in the Midst of Suffering

JESUS:

- Validates our feelings about suffering and welcomes questions.
- Promises a future hope that one day the problem of pain will be eclipsed.
- Brings meaning to our suffering by explaining how God can shape us through it.
- Came to show the depths of his love by suffering alongside us and for us.

“He [GOD] will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

- **Jesus (Revelation 21:4)**

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