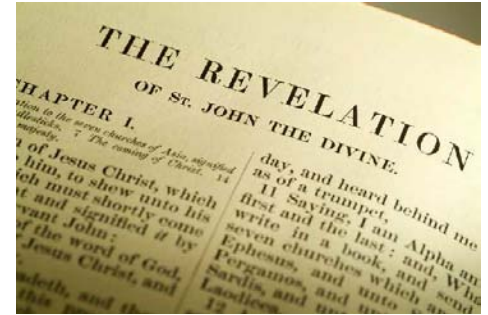




From here  
→  
To here



# BIBLICAL SURVEY

## God said WHAT???

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## *Stuck in a Moment*

You've got to get  
yourself together



## *Stuck in a Moment*

You've got to get  
yourself together  
You've got stuck in  
a moment



## *Stuck in a Moment*

You've got to get  
yourself together

You've got stuck in  
a moment

Now can't get out  
of it



*Stuck in a Moment*

Oh Love, Look at  
you now



*Stuck in a Moment*

Oh Love, Look at  
you now

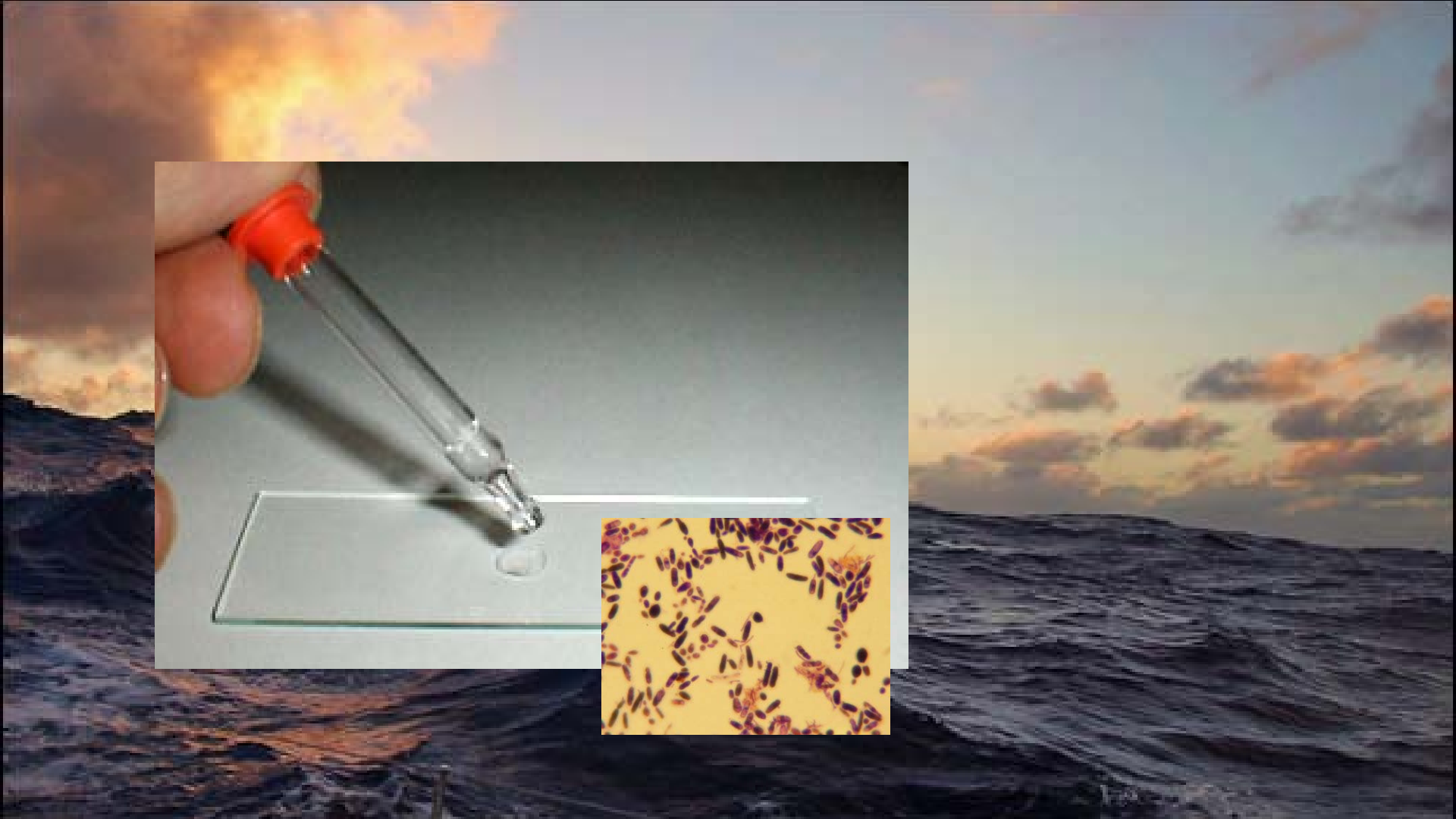
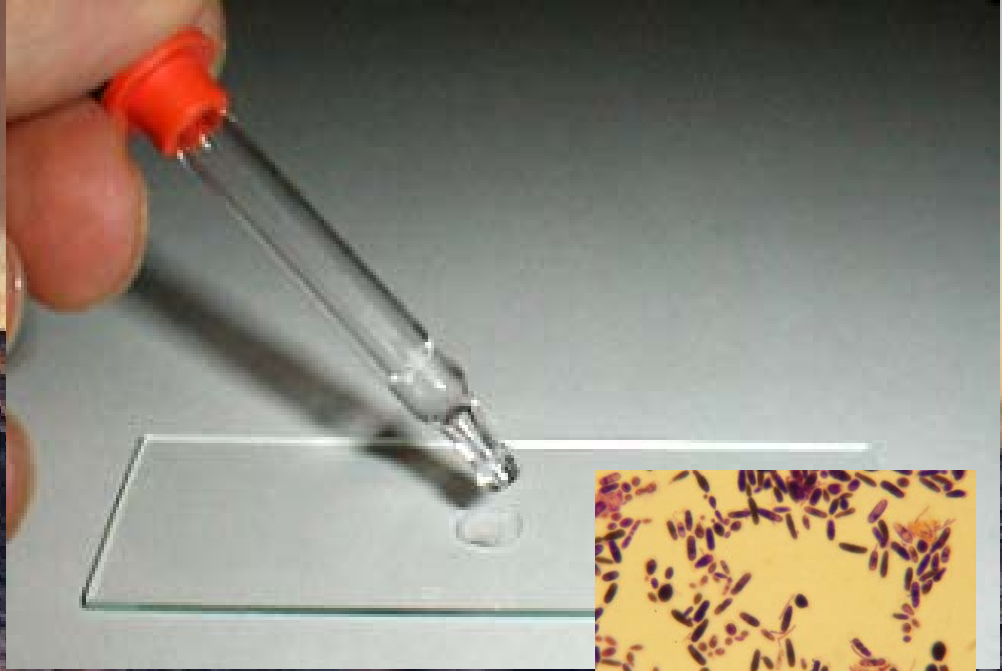
You've got yourself  
stuck in a moment



## *Stuck in a Moment*

Oh Love, Look at  
you now

You've got yourself  
stuck in a moment  
And you can't get  
out of it





The  
infinitesimal  
moment





God is Love

Love your enemies

By this they will know that you are  
Christians, that you love one  
another



God is Love

Love your enemies

By this they will know that you are  
Christians, that you love one

In the cities ... you shall save nothing alive that  
breathes, but you shall devote them to complete  
destruction, the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites,  
Perizzites, etc.

(Dt. 20:16)



God is Love

God allows the holocaust, Darfur, sexual  
abuse of children, etc.



# God is Love

God allows the holocaust, Darfur, sexual abuse of children, etc.

God says destroyed all in the flood



# God is Love

God allows the holocaust, Darfur, sexual abuse of children, etc.

God says destroyed all in the flood

God says, "Kill the Canaanites"



1 – What does everyone else

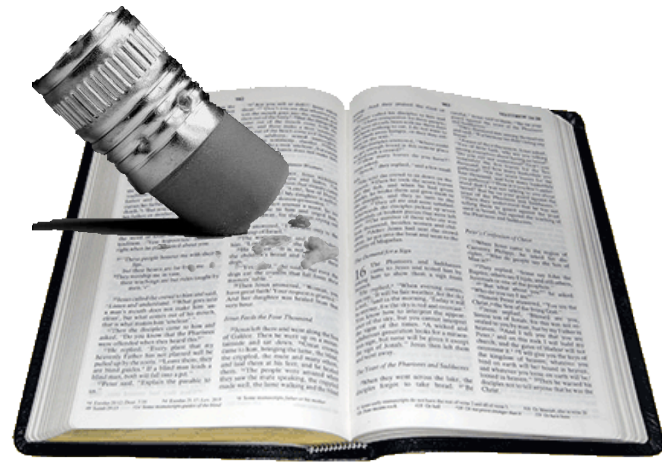
“Deconstruct”

2 – What do we say?

“Construct”

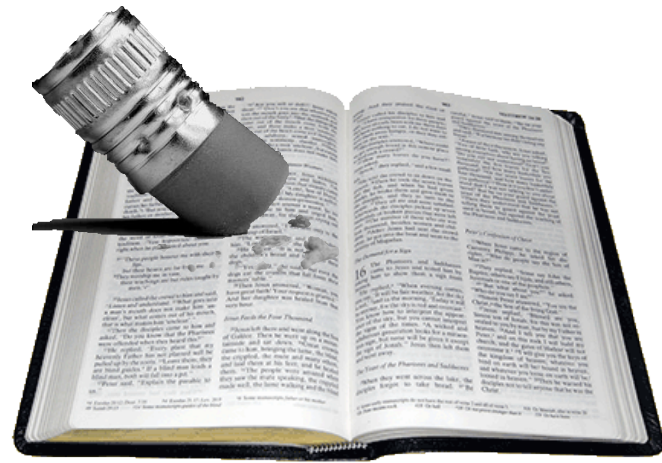
Last week

# 1. Rewrite the Bible

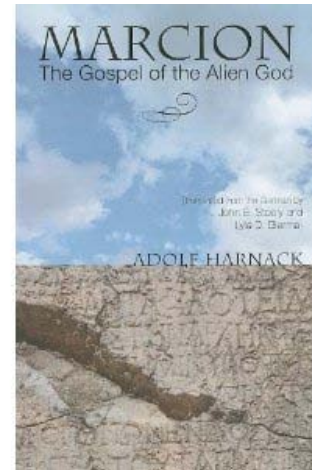




# 1. Rewrite the Bible



# 2. A different God



### 3. Read Scripture “differently” (a different “hermeneutic”)



Origen of  
Alexandria  
(150-215)



Seibert of  
Pennsylvania  
a

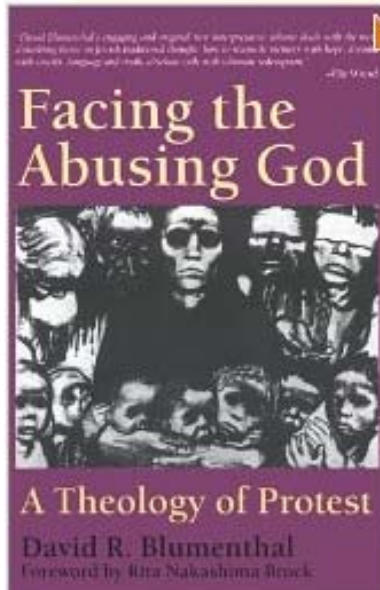
**God didn't *really***



**God *really* did**

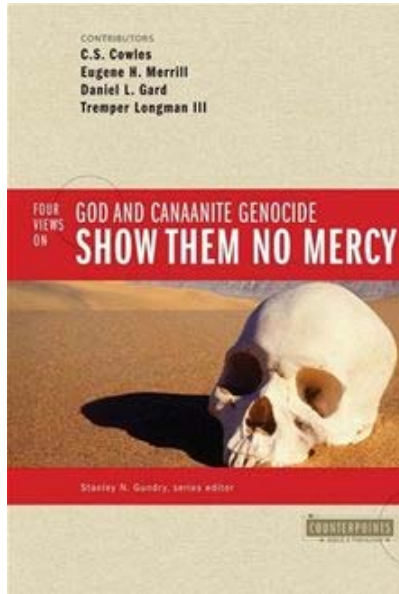
1. Rewrite
2. Change God
3. Read differently

# God *really* did



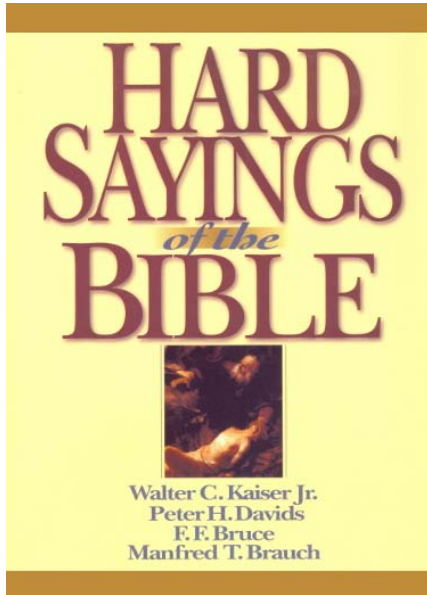
4. God is complex and at times, abusive

# God *really* did



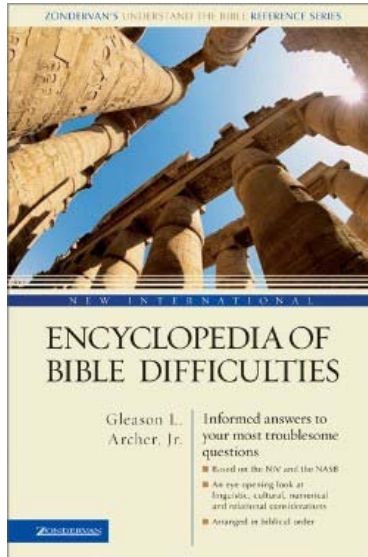
## 5. God has divine immunity

# God *really* did



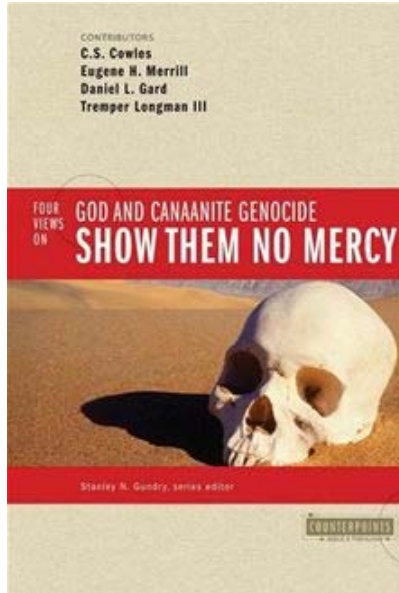
6. God has just cause for his actions

# God *really* did



## 7. God acted for the greater good

# God *really* did



8. God's actions are part of his progressive revelation



## God didn't *really*

1. Rewrite
2. Change God
3. Read differently



## God *really* did

4. God is complex/abusive
5. God has immunity
6. Just cause
7. The greater good
8. Progressive revelation



1 – What does everyone else say?

“Deconstruct”

2 – What do we say?

“Construct”

This week

Constructive Ideas

# The Socratic Method



# The Socratic Method



# The Socratic Method



The Socratic Method:

Asking the *right* questions

# The Socratic Method:

Asking the *right* questions

Exm.

"The Bible or the  
Enlightenment: Which is the  
source of American Religious  
Liberty?"

# The Socratic Method:

Asking the *right* questions

**BAD  
QUESTION!**

"The Bible or the Enlightenment: Which is the source of American Religious Liberty?"



# The Socratic Method:

Asking the *right* questions

Exm.

“Why would a loving, moral God allow evil things to happen?”

# The Socratic Method:

Asking the *right* questions

"Why would a loving, moral God allow evil things to happen?"

**BAD  
QUESTION!**

# The Socratic Method:

Asking the *right* questions

1. What is evil?

# The Socratic Method:

Asking the *right* questions

1. What is evil?

✘ “Doing harm or causing pain”



✘ “Doing harm or causing pain”



✘ “Doing harm or causing pain without a corresponding good”

✘ “Doing harm or causing pain”



✘ “Doing harm or causing pain without a corresponding good”

“Doing harm or causing pain without a superimposing worthy motive”

✘ “Doing harm or causing pain”



✘ “Doing harm or causing pain without a corresponding good”

“Doing harm or causing pain without a superimposing **worthy** motive”



# The Socratic Method:

Asking the *right* questions

Whatever I decide

1. What is evil?

Whatever the community consensus says

Whatever core historical values led to our culture

# 1. What is evil?

I decide

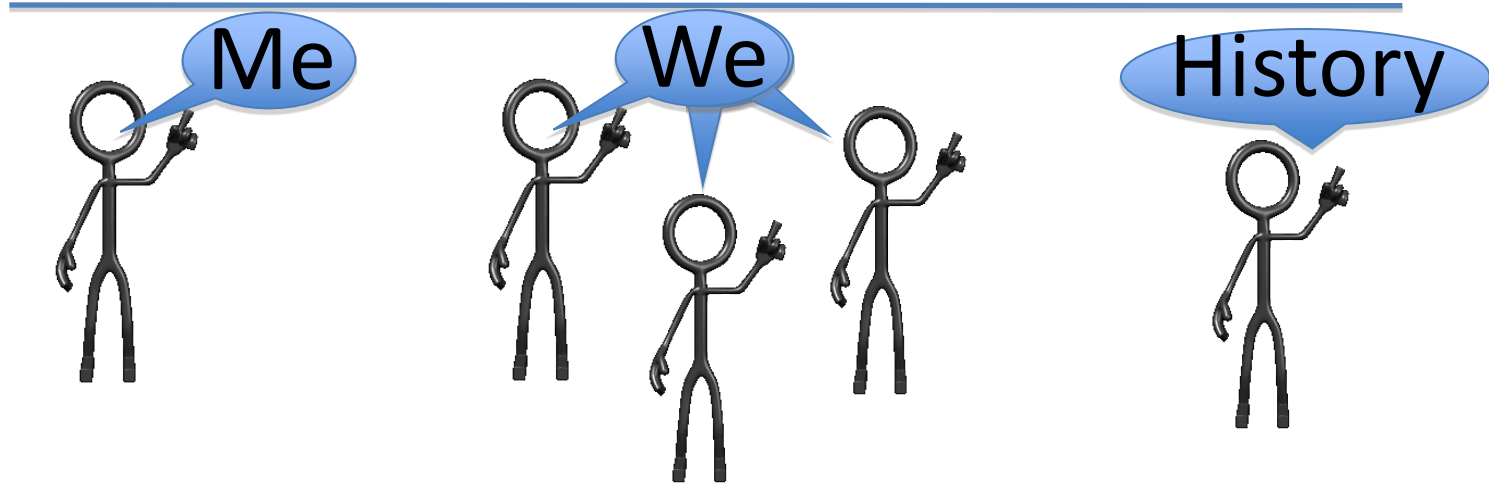
Majority  
decides  
History  
decides



In every case,  
humans decide

# 1. What is evil?

## The moral nature of God



# 1. What is evil?

God's ways are "righteous"  
Man's are polluted (Is 64:5-6)

The moral nature  
of God



# 1. What is evil?



Good: Character  
of God

Evil: Contrary to  
the morals of God

In the cities ... you  
shall save nothing  
alive that breathes,  
but you shall devote  
them to complete  
destruction  
(Dt. 20:16)

# 1. What is evil?



Good: Character  
of God

Evil: Contrary to  
the morals of God

God decides when  
people move from  
the moment to  
eternity

# 1. What is evil?

Good: Character  
of God

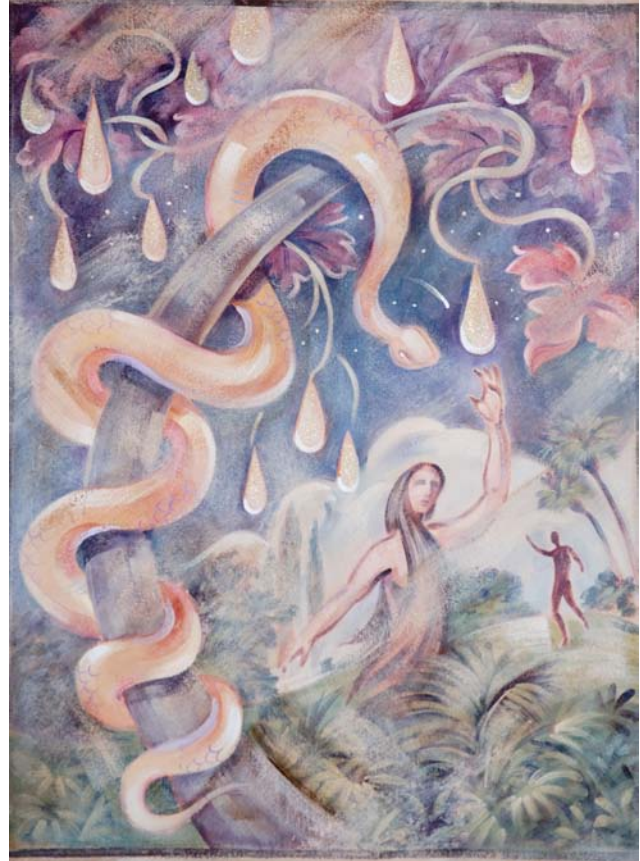
Evil: Contrary to  
the morals of God

What about the  
sexually abused  
child?

## 2. Why is there evil?

Man chooses  
contrary to God's  
morality

(Then *and* now!)





### 3. Where is God?

Working his plan  
in spite of evil

“Insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities” developed the character of Christ in Paul (2 Cor 12:10)

### 3. Where is God?

Working his plan  
in spite of evil

Paul suffered “for the sake of the elect”  
(2 Tim 2:1-11)

### 3. Where is God?

Working his plan  
in spite of evil

“I will...refine them as one refines silver “

(Zech 13:8)

### 3. Where is God?

Working his plan  
in spite of evil



3. What is the future  
of evil?

Evil is conquered;  
the dead rolled up

“He 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” (Rev 21:5)



## Points for home

*“No one is good but God alone”*  
(Luke 18:19)

Taste and see that the Lord is good!



## Points for home

*“I will refine them as silver”*  
(Zec. 13:8)

Don't blame God for suffering, trust him in  
suffering



# Points for home

*“He will wipe away every tear”*  
(Rev. 21:5)

**Amen, Come Lord Jesus!**



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Wantmore@biblical-  
literacy.com

Email me a trait of Christ  
you are working on!

