

# A Groaning God in a Suffering World

I was walking  
along the road  
with two friends.  
The sun was  
setting.

I felt a breath of  
melancholy-  
Suddenly the sky  
turned blood-red.



I stopped, and  
leaned against  
the railing,  
deathly tired –  
looking out across  
the flaming  
clouds that hung  
like blood and a  
sword over the  
blue-black fjord  
and town.



My friends  
walked on - I  
stood there,  
trembling with  
fear.  
And I sensed a  
**great, infinite  
scream** pass  
through nature.



## The Presence of Evil

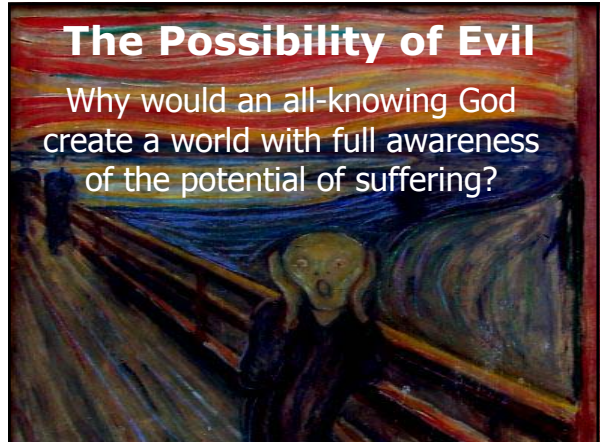
...this man, delivered up  
by the predetermined  
plan and foreknowledge  
of God, you nailed to a  
cross by the hands of  
godless men and put him  
to death  
(Acts 2:23; cf. 4:27-28)

Thus, there is no God

God's goodness  
shown  
God's power  
demonstrated  
reality of evil  
manifest

## The Possibility of Evil

Why would an all-knowing God  
create a world with full awareness  
of the potential of suffering?





## A Suffering God?

- Image of God
- Old Testament Passages  
(*Gen. 3:10; 6:5-6; Hos. 11:7-9*)
- Christ



## God's Passion

**Breadth:** God's choice to create is a choice to suffer

**Depth:** God's suffering more acute & intense than any other



My power is made  
perfect in weakness

The triumph of  
suffering love!