

# Focus Bible Study



“It is reasoned that if God were all-loving and all-powerful he’d be willing and able to put an end to suffering. The fact that suffering continues in the world is proof, *so it is thought*, that an all-loving, all-powerful God does not exist...” J. Dickson

## Why does God allow suffering?

What are the different types of suffering ?

Who or what do people think is ultimately responsible for suffering?

### **Discuss.**

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In the statement above, what assumptions are made about God and suffering ?

What does the Bible say about suffering and evil ? In the passages below what can you notice about the cause and reason for suffering, attitudes towards suffering and the hope for believers. (split the group into pairs and look at a couple of verses each and feedback to the group or if the group wants to do it together then do the passages with the asterisk\*)

Romans 1:18-25

Romans 1:26-32

\*Romans 8:18-27

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

\*2 Corinthians 4:13-18

\*Hebrews 12: 2-11

\*James 1:2-4, 12-15

\*1 Peter 1:3-9

**Summary and conclusion.**

From the Bible passages above, what is the Bible's view on why we suffer and how God solves the problem?

Reasons for suffering ?

How did God deal with suffering ?

How to endure suffering?

How does the Gospel give people who are suffering Hope?

God will indeed end all suffering one day but in doing so he will also right every wrong and call us to in account. How ready are you for Jesus to call you into account if he came today?

Pray for one another and for people who are suffering hardships.