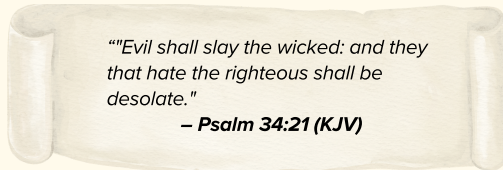


Q:

What is Worse Than EVIL?

What runs through your imagination when you hear the word - EVIL?

Does evil have a face? A forked tongue? Does it rise like a toxic fog? Or stroll in like an uninvited guest?



I often considered evil a nameable thing. A monster of sorts just waiting for the chance to trespass against us.

But what exactly is evil, and what does it want?

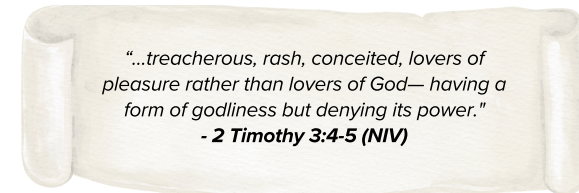
When I began reading the Bible, the word "evil" simply didn't register.

Like "sin", the word evil had lost its edge. It had been pushed to the back of the drawer like a knife I never used anymore.

I knew then that I didn't truly know evil.

WORD ON THE WORD: The Hebrew word for EVIL is "RA" (pronounced "rah"). It speaks of disorder, chaos, a breaking into pieces, an agent of unraveling.

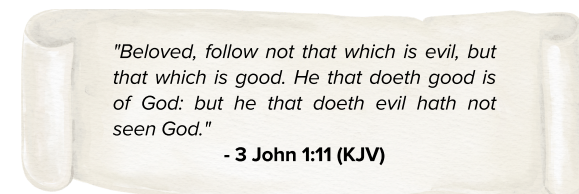
Evil hardens the heart. Makes it impenetrable. Dark. Incapable of self-reflection.



At its core, evil is the ACTIVE corruption of the good.

Not the "absence of good", but the conscious destruction of trust. A betrayal.

Betrayal, lowest circle in Dante's pit of hell, is reserved for those who deny God as good, or God as GOD.



But there is another kind of evil. Perhaps worse – the evil you never feel.

A passive evil. Like a spreading fungus, it happens without conscious thought.

Neither hot nor cold, just lukewarm. An agent of indifference and chaos.

Q:

What is Worse Than EVIL?

*"So then because thou art lukewarm, and
neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my
mouth."*

- Revelation 3:16 (KJV)

And yet, the tiniest ray of light can destroy the darkness.

*"For I know the thoughts that I think toward
you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and
not of evil, to give you an expected end."*

- Jeremiah 29:11 (KJV)



Q. DOES REPENTANCE BRING GOD'S GRACE?
OR, ... DOES GOD'S GRACE BRING REPENTANCE?

■ JESUS HAD NO SONS.

↳ IF THE LATTER, THEN ELECTION AND PREDETERMINATION MUST BE ACCEPTED AS TRUE.

↳ IF THE FORMER, FREE WILL IS THE PRIMARY MOVER.

Q. ARE MY FIRST THOUGHTS MOST OFTEN DIRECTED AT "THE GOOD"?

↳ DOES IT MATTER? FOR EITHER WAY ONE MUST LIVE THE ~~WORLD~~ LIFE AFTER REPENTANCE TO SECURE HOPES OF SALVATION.

THE TERM...

EVIL

... NO LONGER CARRIES THE GRAVITAS AND THE PENDING SENSE OF DREAD IT ONCE DID. DEFANGED.

Q. WHAT WORD WILL WE USE TO REPLACE IT?

- WICKED
- VILE
- CORRUPT
- _____

OR MAYBE IT JUST NEEDS A GOOD, OLD-FASHIONED

REVIVAL

"CAN I GET A...
HELL YES!?"

Q. WHAT WILL BE THE OPENING SALVO IN THE FINAL BATTLE BETWEEN GOD & EVIL?

- EARTHQUAKE? SOUND? SILENCE?
- METEOR? WIND? _____?

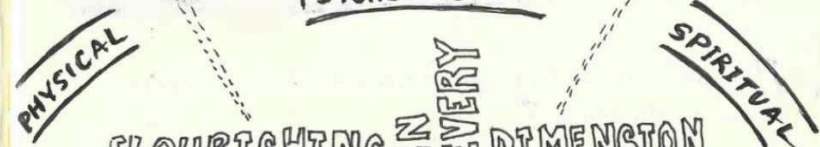
■ I STILL FIRST CONSIDER EARTHLY EVENTS REMOVED FROM THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD. PROOF YET THAT THE MIND AND HEART HAVE NOT BEEN TRANSFORMED.

Q. FOR ALL THE GOODNESS AND BLESSING BESTOWED UPON ME, WHAT IS IT THAT I OFFER GOD?

↳ WHAT GIFTS DO I GIVE IN RETURN?

↳ WHAT IS ASKED OF ME?

↳ DO I NEED TO BE ASKED?



FLOURISHING ^{IN} EVERY DIMENSION

SHALOM

from the Hebrew root "SLM" which means

COMPLETE OR PERFECT

also means...

"LACK OF CONFLICT"



"... COMPLETE RECONCILIATION, A STATE OF THE FULLEST FLOURISHING IN EVERY DIMENSION - PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL, AND SPIRITUAL - BECAUSE ALL RELATIONSHIPS ARE RIGHT, PERFECT, AND FILLED WITH JOY."
-TIM KELLER