## **Personal Application and Conversations**

- 1. Why let your best plan be tested by your worst enemy?
- 2. To what purpose is God allowing evil to persist?
- 3. As evil continues, is God indifferent and malevolent, or, merciful and patient? Why?
- 4. If God is the ultimate good, why not destroy evil immediately?
- 5. Should He start with you, your ancestors or just start all over like He said to Moses?
- 6. Remember, we're in a fallen world. It didn't start out that way. Bad things happen. We still have two enemies: Satan and Death!



## Intervention: The World Is Going NUTS!

A Panorama of Scripture

Dean Ortner July 31, 2022



## "...," says the blind man as he picks up his hammer and saw . . . Nothing!

"Some foolish men declare that Creator made the world. The doctrine that the world was created is ill-advised, and should be rejected. If god created the world, where was he before creation? If you say he was transcendent then, and needed no support, where is he now? No single being had the skill to make the world—for how can an immaterial god create that which is material? How could god have made the world without any raw material? If you say he made this first, and then the world, you are faced with an endless regression. If you declare that the raw material arose naturally you fall into another fallacy, for the whole universe might thus have been its own creator, and have risen equally naturally. If god created the world by an act of will, without any raw material, then it is just his will made nothing else and who will believe this silly stuff? If he is ever perfect, and complete, how could the will to create have arisen in him? If, on the other hand, he is not perfect, he could no more create the universe than a potter could. If he is formless, actionless, and all-embracing, how could he have created the world? Such a soul, devoid of all modality, would have no desire to create anything. If you say that he created to no purpose, because it was his nature to do so then god is pointless. If he created in some kind of sport, it was the sport of a foolish child, leading to trouble. If he created out of love for living things and need of them that he made the world; why did he not make creation wholly blissful, free from misfortune? Thus the doctrine that the world was created by god makes no sense at all."

--Jinasena (ninth-century Jain master)

"Physical science, at the present day, investigates phenomena simply as they are in themselves. This, if not positively atheistic, must be a dangerous tendency. Whatever deliberately omits God from the universe is closely allied to that which denies Him.

-- James Read Eckard (1860)

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