



Answers4Seekers, Session #5

Topics Covered:

1. Views on the source of Evil
2. World Slavery and its Abolition
3. Columbus and the Founding of New England Colonies

#1: Popular Views as to the source of Evil, Suffering, and Calamity:

Worldview	Source of Evil	Suffering Calamity	Death
1) Pure Materialism (pure evolution)	Evil does not actually exist, free-will does not actually exist, everything is determined, evil and good only appear to exist.	Calamity is an illusion. Interactions of all material forces are strictly determined. Everything is “valid,” because it is determined.	Endless death is expected part of nature, survival of the fittest, and the laws of entropy (degradation).



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Worldview	Source of Evil	Suffering & Calamity	Death
Dualism	Good and Evil have both eternally existed; they are merely the opposite of one another, equally valid. Neither one is more correct, more virtuous, or more authoritative than the other.	Calamity is an illusion because the concepts of good and evil have an equally valid footing. Calamity suggests that things should be a specific way, but dualism says all is valid.	No discovered reason for death, other than "it is." For example, a surgeon may kill a cancer, and a cancer may kill a surgeon: Both are valid.
Man's Willful Rebellion against a good Creator	Evil does temporality exist. The omnipotent Creator made the world good but only to the degree that free-will agents would choose to keep it that way. In the future, the world will be restored. Rebellion to God's character is the source of evil.	Calamity in nature, Calamity of soul, and Calamity of spirit are the results of man's rebellion against the Creator and His design. Restoration exists in Christ (thru His redemption); A incorruptible new heaven and earth are coming for those in Christ.	Man, thru his rebellion against God, has unplugged himself and his world from the source and sustainer of life (God). Human life and the world are now both running down, and unless restored to the source of life, will die.



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- A. **The Typical Christian Definition for “evil”:** Evil is actions, thoughts, and attitudes that run contrary to the character of God, especially, His love and holiness.
- B. **For Christians, the origin of evil and calamity entering the world are easily seen thru the Biblical Scriptures. A common understanding of how evil enter the world is as follows:**
 - a. **God created mankind, gave them freewill, and gave them dominion over the earth (the right and authority to rule, on a conditional basis):**
 - i. **Psalms 115:16**, “The highest heavens belong to the LORD, but the earth he has given to mankind.”
 - ii. **Genesis 1:27-28**, “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ‘Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule...””
 - b. **Satan (also called the Devil or Lucifer), originally was created as a good angel, but thru pride Satan rebelled against God, lost his position in heaven, is now called a murderer and the Father of Lies, and the source of temptation and evil entering the world. His greatest desire now is to destroy mankind, since we are created in God’s image:**



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- i. **Isaiah. 14:14-15**, “I [Lucifer (Satan)] will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High [God].” “But you [Lucifer] will be brought down to Sheol [the place of the dead], to the lowest depths of the Pit.”
- ii. **John 8:44**, “... the devil ... was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him he is a liar and the father of lies.”
- iii. **Rev. 12:9**, “... that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray.”
- iv. **John 10:10**, “The thief (Satan) comes only to steal and kill and destroy...”
- c. **Man, thru self-pride and rebellion to God, responded to Satan’s temptation to disobey God’s command. Thru man’s rebellion and siding with Satan, mankind turned over (to some degree) their authority to rule over the earth, and (to some degree) disconnected the world (cosmos) from God’s sustaining power and protection.**
 - i. **Genesis 3:12-13** “And the man answered, “The woman whom You gave me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” “Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” “The serpent deceived me,” she replied, “and I ate.”



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- ii. **Luke 4:5-6**, “The devil led him [Jesus] up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to Him [Jesus], “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; *for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.*”
- iii. **Romans 8: 21** “that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.”

d. Satan, temporarily (until Jesus’ return), has been given some degree of influence over the world and mankind. Satan’s desire is to wreak as much spiritual and eternal destruction upon mankind as possible.

- i. **2 Tim. 2:26** “and that they [all people] may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.”
- ii. **1 John 5:19** “We know that we [Christians] are of God, and that the whole world is under the power of the evil one [Satan].
- iii. **John 10:10**, “The thief (Satan) comes only to steal and kill and destroy...”



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- iv. **Rev. 12:9** “that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray...”
- v. **James 4:7** “Therefore submit to God [you Christians]. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”
- e. **The Final Eradication of Evil:** Jesus Christ, by His death on the cross, burial, and resurrection from the dead, conquered and disarmed Satan & Death in the lives of His people (Christians). And, at the appointed time of His return to earth on the clouds He will destroy evil, calamity and Death forever; culminating in a new heaven and new earth:
 - i. **Colossians 2:15:** “And [Jesus] having disarmed the [satanic] powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.”
 - ii. **Hebrews 2:14** “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He [Jesus] Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.”



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- iii. **Revelation 21: 1- 5** “Then I [John] saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying: Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God. ‘He will wipe away every tear from their eyes,’ and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the former things have passed away.’ And the One [God] seated on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.”

- iv. **Rev 21:26-27** “And into the city will be brought the glory and honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who practices an abomination or a lie, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.



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2. History of World Slavery & the United States

Since the United States has recently had a resurgence of concern over past slavery (which did momentarily tarnish the eternal truth that “all men are created equal”), it is important to note that the United States – when viewed on the world scale -- was one of the last countries to participate in the institution of slavery, and one of the first nations (2nd after Britain) to fully abolish slavery.

The history of slavery spans many cultures, nationalities, and religions from ancient times to the present day.

1. (3000 BC to 1700 BC), Slavery by the Mesopotamians, Slave count (unknown):

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_slavery

- a. Slavery features in the *Mesopotamian Code of Hammurabi* (c. 1750 BC), which refers to it as an established institution.



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2. Slavery by Islamic Countries (650 ad to 1926 ad), Slave count from 11.5 million to 15 million Africans:

[History of slavery in the Muslim world - Wikipedia](#), [Slavery in the Arab World, Gordon, 1989](#)

- a. Encompassed mainly Western and Central Asia, Northern and Eastern Africa, India, and Europe from the 7th to the 20th century.
- b. Slaves were widely employed in irrigation, mining, and animal husbandry, but most commonly as soldiers, guards, domestic workers,^[7] [concubines](#) (sex slaves).
- c. Black Africans were enslaved in the twelve centuries prior to the 20th century at between 11.5 million to 15 million.^{[12] [13][14][15]}
- d. Among slaves traded in the Islamic empire across the centuries, there were roughly two females to every male.^[7] Outside of explicit sexual slavery, most female slaves had domestic occupations. Often, this also included [sexual relations with their masters](#) – a lawful motive for their purchase and the most common one.^{[42][8]}



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3. **Slavery thru the Atlantic Trade (1526 ad to 1867 ad), from 9.6 million to 12.8 million Africans:**
([The Atlantic Slave Trade, Curtin, 1969, page 268](#)), https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_slave_trade

a. The vast majority of those who were transported in the transatlantic slave trade were people from [Central](#) and [West Africa](#) who [had been sold by other West Africans](#) to Western European slave traders, [\[2\]\[3\]\[4\]](#).

b. **Total Slave Count & Destinations:** ([The Atlantic Slave Trade, Curtin, 1969, page 268](#))

1. Portuguese Brazil	3.6 million Slaves
2. British Caribbean	1.7 million Slaves
3. Spanish America (non-colonies)	1.6 million Slaves
4. French Caribbean	1.6 million Slaves
5. Dutch Caribbean	0.5 million Slaves
6. US Colonies (British North America):	0.4 million Slaves
7. Europe	0.2 million Slaves



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4. **(1550 ad to 1850 ad) White Slavery thru Algeria/[Barbary Coast](#) (1 million slaved Europeans): [Christian Slaves, Muslim Masters, Davis, 2003](#).**
 - a. Robert Davis estimates that [slave traders](#) from [Tunis](#), [Algiers](#), and [Tripoli](#) enslaved 1 million to 1.25 million Europeans in North Africa, from the beginning of the 16th century to the middle of the 18th (these numbers do not include the European people who were enslaved by Morocco and by other raiders and traders of the [Mediterranean Sea](#) coast).^[3]
5. **(2001 ad) Slavery in Côte d'Ivoire, Africa, 15,000 Child Slaves:** The [United States Department of State](#) estimated there were 15,000 child slaves in cocoa, cotton, and coffee farms in Côte d'Ivoire,^[10]
6. **(2013 ad) Current Worldwide Slavery, (25-40 million slaves):** In modern times [human trafficking](#) remains an international problem. An estimated 25-40 million people were enslaved as of 2013, the majority of these in [Asia](#).^[11]



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The First Nations to completely abolish Slavery:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_abolition_of_slavery_and_serfdom

The United States was the 18th out of 86 major Countries to completely abolish slavery:

Note: Views only Countries existing at least since the 1801, with semi to large populations
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_abolition_of_slavery_and_serfdom

Chronology of when Countries enacted their complete abolition of slavery and serfdom		
Date	Country	Description
1574	Philippines	Slavery abolished by royal decree. ^[38]
1590	Japan	Toyotomi Hideyoshi bans slavery except as punishment for criminals. ^[40]
1814	Netherlands	Slave trade abolished.
1823	Chile	Slavery abolished. ^[70]
1829	Mexico	Last slaves freed just as the first president of partial African ancestry (Vicente Guerrero) is elected. ^[70]
1830	Uruguay	Slavery abolished.
1831	Bolivia	Slavery abolished. ^[70]
1832	Greece	Slavery abolished with independence.
1834	United Kingdom	The Slavery Abolition Act 1833 comes into force, abolishing slavery throughout most of the British Empire but on a gradual basis
1844	Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic declares independence from Haiti; abolition of slavery reinforced. ^[119]
1846	Tunisia	Slavery abolished in Tunisia under Ahmed Bey rule. ^[121]
1848	France	Slavery abolished in the colonies. Gabon is founded as a settlement for emancipated slaves.
1852	Hawaii	1852 Constitution officially declared slavery illegal. ^[135]
1853	Argentina	Slavery abolished with the sanction of a new federal Constitution. ^[136]
1854	Peru	Slavery abolished by Ramón Castilla. ^{[137][70]}
1854	Venezuela	Slavery abolished. ^{[70][106]}
1861	Russia	The Emancipation reform of 1861 abolishes serfdom. ^[141]
1865	United States	Slavery abolished, except as punishment for crime, by the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. It frees all



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Seventeen (17) African Countries abolished Slavery only after the United States did, and many waited until the 20th Century:

Chronology of when Countries enacted their complete abolition of slavery and serfdom		
Date	Country	Description
1890	Congo	Brussels Conference Act – a collection of anti-slavery measures to put an end to the slave trade on land and sea, especially in the Congo Basin, the Ottoman Empire, and the East African coast.
1895	Egypt	Slavery abolished.[157]
1896	Madagascar	Slavery abolished.
1902	Cameroon	Gradual abolition of slavery.[163]
1949	South Africa	Slavery abolished. ^[182]
1957	Libya	1926 Slavery Convention ratified.
1957	Sudan	1926 Slavery Convention ratified.
1960	Niger	Slavery abolished.[190]
1961	Morocco	Slavery abolished under Moroccan Constitution, although domestic slave practices continued.[171]
1961	Nigeria	1926 Slavery Convention ratified.
1963	Guinea	1926 Slavery Convention ratified.
1964	Uganda	1926 Slavery Convention ratified.
1973	Mali	1926 Slavery Convention ratified.
1973	Zambia	1926 Slavery Convention ratified.
1974	Lesotho	1926 Slavery Convention ratified.
1998	Ghana	Forced ritual servitude of girls in Ewe shrines banned.
2007	Mauritania	Slavery criminalized.[198]



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Nine (9) Muslim Countries abolished Slavery only after the United States did, and many waited until the 20th Century:

Note: Views only Countries existing at least since the 1801, with semi to large populations
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_abolition_of_slavery_and_serfdom

Chronology of when Countries inacted their complete abolition of slavery and serfdom		
Date	Country	Description
1923	Afghanistan	Slavery abolished. ^[172]
1924	Iraq	Slavery abolished. ^[173]
1924	Turkey	Slavery abolished. ^[175]
1937	Bahrain	Slavery abolished. ^[182]
1949	Kuwait	Slavery abolished. ^[182]
1954	Syria	Slavery abolished. ^[182]
1955	Pakistan	Slavery abolished. ^[182]
1959	Jordan	1926 Slavery Convention ratified.
1962	Saudi Arabia	Slavery abolished. ^[185]

Download Files:

- <https://answers4seekers.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/history-of-the-abolition-of-slavery-by-country-1.pdf>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_abolition_of_slavery_and_serfdom



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3. The Goal of Columbus and the New England Colonies

a. Christopher Columbus Original Goal:

[Background \(Prophecies, p67-69\)](#): Columbus stated that he felt he was called by God to help bring the gospel of Christ to India and to find gold to help fund the re-capture of Jerusalem (current held by the Ottoman Muslims). While starting off Nobly Colombus eventually fell victim to pride; while he was a great navigator, he was a poor governor of land of the West Indies, so Colombus was re-called back to Spain by Ferdinand and Isabella, who heard that the West Indies natives were being mistreated.

It is helpful to differentiate between the purposes and actions of Colombus in the New World, versus the Spanish [Encomienda system](#) in the New World [which were not necessarily promoted by the King and Queen of Spain]. Columbus' biographer Bartolome De La Casa, eventually sought to defend the West Indian natives against abuses from the Spaniards, but even he had originally participated in the Encomienda system and also owned slaves; two things that Columbus never did.



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1) Regarding the New World tribes that Columbus found in the Caribbean:

- i. [The Tainos](#) were typically very peaceful and friendly. The Taino's main fear were the Caribs (a neighboring warlike tribe).
- ii. [The Caribs](#) were a local warlike tribe that practiced war, pillaging, rape, slavery, and [cannibalism](#) (canib comes from "carib").

ii. Columbus' Diary Excerpts ([The Dario of Christopher Columbus, 1492/93](#), Las Casa]

1. [pg 17-18]

"Whereas, Most Christian and Very Noble ... King and Queen of the Spains ... because of the report I have given to your Highness about the lands of India ... [and] how [the Grand Khan] asked for learned men in our Holy Faith [to come to him] ... You [King and Queen of Spain] thought of sending me, Christopher Colon [ie, Cristoforo Colombo] to said region of India ... And you [King and Queen of Spain] commanded that I should not go to the east ... but by the route to the West [to India]."



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2. [pg 265]

"...but with hope, he [Columbus] says, that those people [the Natives] are destined to be Christians because of their desire that they seem to have, and that the Sovereign of Castile [King of Spain], and because the Admiral [Columbus] considers the Indians as their subjects [part of Spain]. And so that they may serve him with love, he wants and tries to make everything pleasant for them."

iii. Biographers Excerpts:

1. [Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem](#) (Delaney, 2011):

1) Columbus' main purposes for a new route to India was:

- i. Share the Holy Christian Faith with the Grand Khan of India.
- ii. To find gold to be able to help finance an effort for the Christians to recapture Jerusalem, which was lost to Muslims in 637 AD (apparently especially urgent to Columbus, since the capital of Christendom in the East, Constantinople, fell to the Muslims in 1453 AD -- when Columbus was just 2 years old).



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iii. Excerpts:

1. [pg 153]

“La Casa wrote that Columbus’s request for miners [from Spain] was proof that Columbus never intended to make the Indians work in the mines [and] That in seven years’ time he would have collected enough gold to accomplish their plan, namely a crusade for the conquest of Jerusalem.”

2. [pg 155]

“She [Queen Isabella] already expressed her desire that the natives, whom she considered vassals [a person under the protection of a feudal lord], be converted in the islands. Vassals cannot be enslaved...”



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2. [pg 205]

“Ovando [Governor of Hispaniola], clearly had reasons for keeping Columbus off the island [Santa Domingo]; he feared that if Columbus found out about his treatment of the Indians, he too, would be recalled [back to Spain].”

3. **Columbus’ Life was not perfect either** ([Admiral of the Sea, Morison, 1991](#))

i. [pg 491] *“...the army marched about the island ... forcing the now thoroughly terrified natives to submit to viceregal rule ... whoever thought up this ghastly system, Columbus was responsible for it...”*

b. The Charters of the “New England Colonies”

(These charters had economic elements within, but also had elements about building a peaceful religious community and creating an opportunity to advance the Christian faith):

- i. [1606 ad, The Virginia Company \[Jamestown, Va.\]](#), First Charter, April 10, 1606 ad.
Excerpt: *“... We, greatly commending, and graciously accepting of, their Desires for the Furtherance of so noble a Work, which may, by the Providence of Almighty God, hereafter tend to the Glory of his Divine Majesty, in propagating of Christian Religion to such People, as yet live in Darkness ...”*



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- ii. [1620 ad, the Mayflower Compact](#), [Plymouth, Mass.], November 11, 1620

Excerpt:

*"... **IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.** We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord King James, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith, and the Honour of our King and Country, a Voyage to plant the first Colony in the northern Parts of Virginia ..."*

- iii. [1629 ad, Massachusetts Bay Company](#) [Salem & Boston, Mass.], March 4, 1629

Excerpt:

"whereby our said People, Inhabitants there, may be soe religiously, peaceable, and civilly governed, as their good Life and orderlie Conversacon [conversation], maie [may] wynn [win] and incite the Natives of Country, to the Knowledg and Obedience of the onlie [only] true God and Saulor [savior] of Mankinde, and the Christian Fayth [faith], which in our Royall Intencon [intention], and the Adventurers free Profession, is the principall Ende of this Plantacion [plantation]."

For More Information on the Religious Founding of America, please see A4S Session #13.