



Part 3: *The Origin of Evil*

In December of 2004 a tsunami killed more than a quarter million people in eleven countries. Why?

God, if there is a God, should be ashamed of himself.

-- Allan Laing, *Glasgow Herald* (January 4, 2005)

I hope I am right that there is no God. For if there were, then he'd have to shoulder the blame. In my book, he would be as guilty as sin and I'd want nothing to do with him.

-- Allan Laing, *Glasgow Herald* (January 4, 2005)

If we are responsible for our actions, as most religions insist, then God should be too. And I would propose, post-tsunami, an immediate withdrawal of prayer and other forms of flattery directed at a supposedly moral deity -- at least until an apology is issued.

-- Barbara Ehrenreich, *Progressive* (March 2005)

If God cares about our puny little species, then disasters prove that he is not all-powerful; and if he is all-powerful, then clearly he doesn't give a damn.

-- Barbara Ehrenreich, *Progressive* (March 2005)

Doubt of God's goodness creates the terror of aloneness in an unreliable world, which leads to rage against God for doing so little to protect us from suffering.

-- Larry Crabb, *Finding God*

The ultimate source of all evil is found in the will of free agents rather than in God.

-- Greg Boyd, *God of the Possible*

It is what comes out of a person that corrupts and pollutes. Selfish desires, murder, adultery, greed, deception, slander -- all these are vomit from the heart. That is the source of what is wrong with the world.

-- Jesus