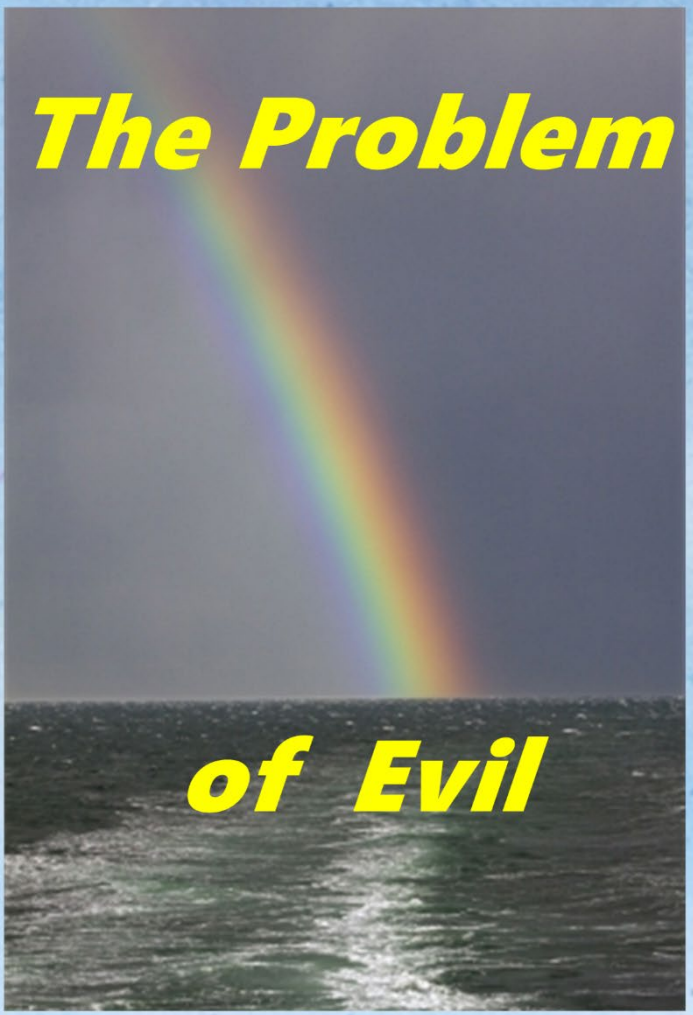
The Problem of Evil



Eva Peck

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Introduction

In our sad and restless world desperately trying to find a way to love and peace but largely encountering wars, violence, hate, and selfishness, many are asking why this is so. If there is a God, why does He allow evil? Why such man's inhumanity to man when humans are also capable of incredibly heroic and loving deeds? Why such paradoxes as amazing technological advances on the one hand and great moral depravity, greed, and disregard for the well-being of others on the other?

Christians and other spiritual practitioners, as well as the best of philosophers have pondered the question of the existence of evil for centuries.

This book doesn't claim to have all the answers, but presents a few ideas for consideration. Readers are encouraged to contemplate the information presented with open minds and hearts, and decide for themselves whether or not it resonates with them.

Origin of Evil

God did not create evil – all of God's original creation, including humans, was good (Genesis 1:31; 1 Timothy 4:4) However, evil does exist and is real – it is not just in the imagination, as some have taught. So where did it come from?

Evil is a human creation. Having been given free will, man is both a creature and a creator – and can create both good and evil.

Nature of Man

Man consists of a physical body, soul and a spirit body. Each is made of a different substance, has a different function, and functions for a different length of time.

The body is material and temporary. After the end of the physical life, it will dissolve into its constituent elements and never again be resurrected in a physical form. Its function is to shield the soul and spirit body during the earthly life. This material part is not connected with the real person (the soul). When its

function is accomplished, the body ceases to be a part of the person altogether.

The spirit body contains the functions of life and what controls the person's behaviour. This includes the intellect, mental faculties, and reasoning powers. The spirit body uses the organs of the material body to manifest these attributes. However, the spirit faculties can function even when the brain or the physical organs of one or more of the five senses are impaired. This body also contains the life principle which does not die, but continues beyond physical death after dropping the envelope of flesh.

After death, the person as the soul inside a spirit body goes on to live in the spirit world. The mind – the mental and intellectual faculties – also continues, now without the limitations that the physical body had placed on it. Memory and all the things forming an individual's identity continue. The person in the spirit world can still conceive thoughts of material things and perceive the physical – even more perfectly than before.

Origin of Human Evil

Humans were created with both physical appetites and spiritual aspirations, but in the beginning, these were in harmony with the laws that produce happiness. After the original disobedience ("the Fall"), however, people began to often exercise their will in wrong ways and contrary to the laws of God. They followed their physical desires in improper ways, which then unduly asserted themselves at the expense of their spiritual aspirations. The perversion of the physical appetites and the loss of spiritual aspirations lead to disharmony and sin (see James 1:13-15).

Evil and the defilements of the soul are creations of not only the mind, but also of emotions, affections, and the intellect. These defilements lead to in alienation from the good, being opposed to man's original state of perfection. The initial purity of the soul is besmirched by the impurities that the person's misguided physical appetites have created. These impurities then become a part of the individual's being and soul. They keep one in

discord with the laws controlling the human existence and result in unhappiness.

The soul in this state can become awakened and realize the existence of its defilements and the fruitless pursuits of worldly values. Upon this realization, the person will choose to embark on a path to purification of their soul and development of natural love, as will be discussed later.

Cause and Effect

God is both loving and merciful, but His Love and mercy are exercised only within His unchangeable laws. Due to the inexorable Law of Compensation (cause and effect, also known as the Law of Punishment or Recompense or *karma* in non-Christian traditions), man truly reaps what he or she sows. God doesn't punish us, but because of laws set in operation, we pay the penalties for our sins. This manifests as suffering and unhappiness here and now, but also carries into the next life.

In the spirit world, a soul that has not been purified will suffer penalties for sins (aka violation of God's law – 1 John 3:4) committed during earth life. The resultant suffering is not due to God's condemnation, but rather due to the scourging of the person's conscience and recollections. The person's soul is to a greater or lesser extent filled with the memories of their sinful thoughts and deeds. The suffering can cease only when these memories, or the results of them, cease to be a part of the person.

This Law of Compensation cannot be humanly escaped except by a long expiation which removes the memories and satisfies the law. In other words, forgiveness and end of suffering occur only when the soul becomes pure and in harmony with the laws of its creation. Then comes also a cessation of recollection of the wrong acts, so that they become as though they had never been.

There is, however, a way to transcend this law and that is by aligning with the Law of Love. In this case, upon prayer, God gives His Divine Love to the penitent individual which in turn transforms their soul into divine substance. This is discussed in a later chapter.

On the earth, the Law of Compensation has a more diffuse effect than in the spirit world, where it works with pin-point accuracy. This is why, unfortunately, here and now the innocent often suffer with the guilty and the guilty may get away with doing evil seemingly without consequences. Many are caught at the wrong place at the wrong time, or are the victims of selfish interests and greed of a minority.

Evil Spirits

Evil spirits do exist, but they are deceased humans whose souls in spirit bodies are now in the spirit world. As former humans, they had lived evil lives on earth and carried their wickedness into the spirit world. They occupy the hell realms in the earth planes and are able to influence humans to perpetrate horrible deeds.

Humans cannot be possessed of demons in the way that the Bible describes. However, through the Law of Attraction and susceptibility of humans to spirit influences, evil spirits of the deceased can obsess those now living. This obsession or attachment can become so strong that the affected human may lose all power to resist this wicked spirit influence and feel compelled to act out of harmony with their own nature. They may display mind distortion as well as loss of will power.

By the same token, those with the inflowing Holy Spirit (Divine Love), who are rich in faith that such work is possible, can cast out the evil

spirits. Also, the so-called miracles that Jesus and his disciples performed are still possible, as the same laws continue to operate. With the Love in their soul and prayer of faith, these individuals can receive from God the power to heal and cast out evil spirits, as did their predecessors.

Solutions to the Problem of Evil

God has decreed two ways that will free the individual soul and body from sin. They both consist of eliminating the wrong appetites and desires that lead to sinful acts. Only then will the soul come into its natural condition of harmony with God's will. Since man is the initiator of sin, man must also be the actor and initiating force to bring about these changes in his will. God is, however, very willing to help in this process and to forgive sin.

Since the root of sin is at the soul level, the soul needs to become awakened to its defilements and fruitless pursuits of worldly values. Upon this realization, the person will then choose to ask for forgiveness and will desire to change.

One way to overcome sin, discussed in this chapter, is to embark on a path to purification of soul and development of one's natural love given to individuals from birth. The second way,

discussed in the next chapter, is through soul transformation by the Divine Love.

Spiritual Teachers

Throughout their history, humans have been exhorted to return to obedience of divine laws. They were taught by spiritual teachers and messengers who in various forms, times and places transmitted God's will to mortals that were attuned to their suggestions. Here, perhaps, is the story of the great religious founders and reformers of all lands and ages up to the coming of the Messiah. They all sought to turn humans to moral life. The Buddha's Eight-fold Path, the Hammurabi Code, and the Decalogue of Moses may be viewed as the success which the Father's messengers attained in planting into human minds an awareness of the existence of God's laws, which were to be observed by all His children for the purity of their souls.

Old Testament prophets, like Moses, Elijah, and others, spent much effort in trying to turn their compatriots away from sin and error to

standards of ethical living. Their highest concept of Judaism, which graces the pages of the Old Testament, was an intense faith in God, righteousness, and obedience to His laws. They, however, conceived of God as a "stern taskmaster" who was "vengeful" and "jealous of His Name". As a result, they sought to give effect to their sermons through recourse to threats of punishment to be meted out by an "angry" and "wrathful" God.

There also runs through the Old Testament Scriptures the theme of the "new heart". This was the upcoming promise of the Father's Love, to be bestowed in the fullness of time upon the Jews first, and thereafter upon all humanity. This was fulfilled when Jesus came as the Messiah and is discussed in the next chapter.

Aspects of Forgiveness

Forgiveness involves two steps. Firstly, the person has to realize that sin is the result of thoughts and deeds out of harmony with God's will and laws. Secondly, effort and struggle are necessary to align with the divine laws and to

get rid of the recollections of sin and its consequences which cause suffering.

Prayer for forgiveness involves asking the Father for help in turning away from wrong thoughts and in exercising their will in accord with God's will. The answer to such prayer does not affect or remove the person's sins, but has a powerful effect on their state and soul. The person will be influenced in such a way that it will be much easier for them to change their wrong appetites and desires.

So, God doesn't forgive by the mere act of pronouncing forgiveness or by an instant blotting out of sins, thereby removing the condition of the soul that causes the disharmony. Neither can any humans pronounce forgiveness on behalf of God. Rather forgiveness is achieved through a period of soul expiation whereby the memories of wrong thoughts and deeds are eliminated.

Jesus' teaching included the good news of a yet higher level of forgiveness. In the Old Testament, this was not understood. The principle was "an eye for an eye and a tooth for

a tooth." The Law of Compensation (cause and effect) was in full force.

By contrast, Jesus taught about forgiveness as that operation of the Divine Mind which relieves man of the penalties of his sins and permits him to turn from his evil thoughts and deeds through seeking the Love of the Father. It is the Divine Love, transforming the soul from divine image into divine likeness and resulting in the new birth, which qualifies one for residence in the Celestial Kingdom. This is discussed in more details in the next chapter.

When a person repents and earnestly prays for forgiveness and renewal (regeneration) and for the Divine Love, a greater law, the Law of Forgiveness and Love, which supersedes the Law of Compensation, comes into effect. The Divine Love gradually replaces the sinful condition in the soul. Since Love is the fulfilment of the law, there is no further need of forgiveness because there is no sin to forgive. So in the Celestial context, forgiveness becomes unnecessary.

Unpardonable Sin

There is no unpardonable sin as traditionally taught, namely that some sins cannot and will not be forgiven. Neither is it true that after a certain point in their lives, people have no inclination to seek the way of salvation or reconciliation with God and therefore cannot be saved. Such teachings slander and blaspheme the loving Father. They create the impression that He is a God of insatiable wrath, and one who consigns humans to eternal punishment and hell because they refuse to believe the doctrines of the churches or fall short in other ways.

The danger of such teachings in that it enslaves people in an unhealthy fear of God and of displeasing Him. Also, it prevents those who come to believe that they have committed the "unpardonable sin" from seeking salvation as they feel there is no hope for them to find it. The truth is that no soul is without the privilege of being able to come to the Father and ask for and obtain His Love and mercy, even in the spirit world.

However, the Bible does allude to a sin that will never be forgiven, namely, "blasphemy against the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 12:31-32; Luke 12:10). What does it mean?

All sins of breaking God's laws will be forgiven and forgotten as humans ultimately become purified in their natural love and thus sinless. The greatest and unforgivable sin is against the Holy Spirit, which involves resisting the Spirit in not seeking and asking for the Divine Love and union with God. As long as a person is in a state of such refusal, this is unforgivable, for it never ceases. This sin differs from other sins in that the latter cease after having been committed and only their consequences remain and must be suffered. The sin against the Holy Spirit is ongoing and continuous as long as a person remains in the state of mind of resisting the Spirit in not seeking the Divine Love. When that resistance ceases and the Divine Love is sought, this sin too is forgiven.

Overcoming Sin and Soul Purification

The powerful force of the will needs to be used to destroy the acquired soul defilements and impurities. First however, human desires must be controlled and harmonized with God's laws. This again involves the mind, as well as emotions and affections (which are of the soul). Effort must then be directed to replacing the unlawful desires which engender sin with desires that are in harmony with God's laws and lead to purification of the natural human love and to happiness.

While humans can strive for recapturing the original state of purity, which aligns one with God's laws and will, it does not mean that they are divine, at one with God, or that God is within their soul. The soul only holds the image of God. However, it does have the potential for being transformed from the divine image into divine substance. This occurs through asking for and receiving the Divine Love into the soul, which is imparted by the Holy Spirit. At this point, the person begins to acquire divine

nature and ultimately immortality (2 Peter 1:3-4; 2 Timothy 1:10). This transformation from human to divine is the greatest of all miracles.

If humans do not overcome their sinful nature in this life, they, as souls in spirit bodies, pass into the spirit world in their evil state and end up in one of the hell realms. They have an opportunity to learn the truth and progress towards perfection and the heavenly realms. Some, however, remain in their stated of sin and wickedness for a long time and may also influence humans on the earth towards evil. They are perceived as devils or demons, but in reality, they are spirits of departed evil mortals from a humanly unseen world influencing the earth inhabitants by suggesting wrong thoughts and desires to them.

Individuals who have passed into the spirit world do not again incarnate (reincarnate). In fact, the conditions on earth are less conducive to spirit progress than those in the spirit world. Karma (cause and effect or the result of one's actions) does not need to take place in a physical body, and purification can continue in the spirit world.

New Birth and Soul Transformation

As mentioned, despite the Fall of man and the resulting loss of the opportunity for immortality, in His love and mercy God has provided two ways for the redemption of humanity and for all to ultimately reach a sinless and happy state of existence without suffering.

The first way, discussed in the previous chapter, is for the soul to be purified either in this life or after death in the spirit world, through obedience to commandments, self-discipline, and overcoming sin, until it reaches the state of perfection possessed by the first parents before their Fall. This is the way taught by prophets and teachers such as Moses, Buddha, and Mohammed.

The second way, discussed in more detail here, is through soul transformation by the Divine Love in response to earnest prayer. The Love of God not merely purifies the soul, but also transforms it into the essence of the

Creator. As a result, the soul becomes aware of, and in possession of, immortality. This is the salvation that Jesus taught when he came to earth and became the Messiah. It is also the fulfilment of the Old Testament "new heart" prophecies.

Prayer for the Father's Love and its outcome not only purifies the soul more quickly, but also transforms it from the divine image into divine substance. As the Divine Love begins to fill the soul, sin and soul encrustations are gradually, little by little, eliminated, and natural love is absorbed by Divine Love. Sin has to give way to the Divine Love as it cannot coexist with It in the same part of the soul at the same time just as it is impossible for two material objects to occupy the same space at the same time.

New Birth

Jesus said to the high-ranking Pharisee, Nicodemus, who came to see him at night for fear of his peers: "No one can see the kingdom of God *unless he is born again*." (John 3:3).

This is the crux of salvation – gaining immortal life in the Celestial Kingdom of God.

The following biblical terms (based on the NIV version) are interchangeable and mean the same thing – the Celestial Kingdom which is the abode of the saved: kingdom of God (the most common expression used 65 times in the gospels, book of Acts, and some of Paul's letters); kingdom of heaven (used 31 times only in the gospel of Matthew); and my [Jesus'] Father's kingdom (used once in Matthew 26:29).

Being "born again" (1 Peter 1:23), which has also been translated as "born from above" has the following equivalents, all referring to the new birth: born of God (John 1:13); and born of the spirit (John 3:6-8).

So those who wish to enter the Celestial Kingdom (be saved) must first undergo the new birth. What does that mean?

Salvation and redemption means becoming at one with God or at-onement. This cannot be achieved through faith in Jesus' sacrifice on the cross or even just human overcoming of sin.

(Jesus' sacrifice can do nothing as far as transformation of individual souls.)

The only way a person can achieve unity with God is through the Holy Spirit imparting the Love of God to them and transforming their soul from the image of God into divine substance. The soul is the essence of the human being. When it receives the Divine Love and nature through faith and prayer, transformation from humanity to divinity occurs. This is a process which starts when the Divine Love first enters the soul and continues indefinitely.

Soul Transformation

Without the Divine Love, humans are neither divine nor have God living in them. They are only created in the image of God, not possessing the substance of God. This too applies only at the soul level, not the body level, for God does not possess a body in human shape.

By sincere prayer, an individual may seek and receive the Divine Love, which makes the person a part of divinity – though not a god or equal with the Father. As they receive the

substance of God in their soul, they move beyond the mere image of the Creator. As a result, they are becoming immortal and no longer subject to death.

So the new birth and salvation means that the soul, made in the image of God, is by the Divine Love transformed into the substance of God. The Bible also refers to the result of this process as becoming a new creature / creation; being born of God; and rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit (John 1:13; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15; 1 Peter 1:23; Titus 3:5; 1 John 3:9 and 4:7).

Through the new birth, brought about by the Divine Love flowing into one's soul and replacing all that tends to sin and error, humans become at one with the Father. As the Divine Love takes over the soul, it changes it to the quality of the Great Soul of the Father. Thus the human becomes divine and immortal with their soul not only in the image of God, but also of divine substance. This, upon passing into the spirit world, enables them to enter the Celestial Kingdom of God and become a divine angel.

Prayer for Divine Love

The following are example prayers for the receipt of the Divine Love. None of them have to be prayed verbatim, but they can give ideas how to approach the Father who is always happy when His children ask for His Holy Spirit which imparts the Divine Love (Luke 11:13).

It is important to be consistent and continue to pray for the Divine Love, as soul transformation doesn't happen all at once, but is a process.

"Prayer Perfect"

The prayer below contains the basic truths given to humankind by Celestial Spirits.

Our Father, who are in heaven, we recognize that You are all holy and loving and merciful, and that we are Your children, and not the subservient, sinful and depraved creatures that our false teachers would have us believe. That we are the greatest of Your creation, and the most wonderful of all Your handiworks, and the

objects of Your great soul's love and tenderest care.

That Your will is that we become at one with You, and partake of Your great Love which You have bestowed upon us through Your mercy and desire that we become, in truth, Your children, through love, and not through the sacrifice and death of any of Your creatures.

We pray that You will open up our souls to the inflowing of Your Love, and that then may come Your Holy Spirit to bring into our souls Your Love in great abundance, until our souls shall be transformed into the very essence of Yourself; and that there may come to us faith — such faith as will cause us to realize that we are truly Your children and one with You in very substance and not in image only.

Let us have such faith as will cause us to know that You are our Father, and the bestower of every good and perfect gift, and that only we, ourselves, can prevent Your love changing us from the mortal to the immortal.

Let us never cease to realize that Your Love is waiting for each and all of us, and that when we

come to You, in faith and earnest aspiration, Your Love will never be withheld from us.

Keep us in the shadow of Your Love every hour and moment of our lives, and help us to overcome all temptations of the flesh, and the influence of the powers of the evil ones, which so constantly surround us and endeavour to turn our thoughts away from You to the pleasures and allurements of this world.

We thank You for Your love and the privilege of receiving it, and we believe that You are our Father — the loving Father who smiles upon us in our weakness, and is always ready to help us and take us to Your arms of love.

We pray this with all the earnestness and longings of our souls, and trusting in Your Love, give You all the glory and honour and love that our finite souls can give. Amen.

Prayers from the Bible

Here are four personally inspiring Bible passages which are prayers of thanksgiving attributed to the apostle Paul (though the exact authorship is not important). They are quoted

from the New International Version of the Bible and are easy to read. I have bolded the parts that particularly speak to me, and have also inserted notes in brackets that parallel information in this book.

Ephesians 1:16-19

I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that **you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened** *[prayer for increased soul perceptions]* in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, **the riches of his glorious inheritance** *[Celestial Kingdom]* in the saints, and **his incomparably great power** *[Divine Love that transforms our souls from divine image to divine substance and mortal to immortal]* for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, …

Ephesians 3:16-21

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with **power through his Spirit in your inner being**, *[soul growth and soul perceptions through Divine Love]* so that Christ *[Divine Love]* may dwell in your hearts through faith. *[Divine Love in the soul]* And I pray that you, being **rooted and established in love**, may have power, together with all the saints, **to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ**, **and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.** *[all aspects of Divine Love]* Now to him **who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us** *[how awesome!]*, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Philippians 1:9-11

And this is my prayer: **that your love may abound more and more in knowledge**

and depth of insight, *[prayer for growth in Divine Love and soul perceptions]* so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God. *[through Divine Love transforming the soul.]*

Colossians 1:3-6

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your **faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints – the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven** *[again, Divine Love?]* and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood **God's grace in all its truth**. *[Divine Love is a gift of grace]* ...

Colossians 1:9-14

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to **fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding**. *[again, soul perceptions]* And we pray this in order that you may **live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way**: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully **giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light**. *[Celestial Kingdom reached through Divine Love]* For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the **kingdom of the Son he loves**, *[Celestial Kingdom of which Jesus is the Master]* in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. *[through praying for and receiving the Divine Love].*

Hope for the World

Our present world certainly contains much darkness. God's children are exhorted to walk in the light and be in the world but not of it (Matthew 5:14-16; Romans 2:12; 2 Corinthians 6:16-18; 10:3-5; 1 Peter 2:11; 1 John 2:15-17). We know that life on earth is temporary and short – though an important preparatory ground for the life beyond. Can we know if there is a hope for our world presently on a collision course with disaster?

Less known history shows that "worlds", civilizations, or human epochs have come and gone with new ones emerging. It is therefore likely that the present age too will come to an end – not an end of the earth as a planet for the time being, but an end of the present civilization. Let's consider some possibilities.

End of the World in the Bible

The Bible has quite a bit to say on the subject of the "end of the world" or "end of the age". Based on its prophecies, Christians had

expected “the end” to come on numerous occasions in past centuries, even setting concrete dates, only to meet with confusion and disappointment. Many believe that we live in the end times right now.

Briefly, the time of the end is said to be an appointed time that only the Father knows (Daniel 8:17-19; Matthew 24:36). It is to be a time of wrath, war, refinement, unprecedented trouble and distress, disease, disasters, and cosmic disturbances (Daniel 11:27-40; Luke 21:9-28). It is also to be a time when Jesus’ gospel will be preached globally before he returns in glory to take the reign over the earth and subdue all rebellion (Matthew 24:14; Luke 21:27-28; Revelation 11:15-18). It is to be a time of “harvest” and separation of the righteous from the wicked, punishment of the wicked, and resurrection of the just to immortal life in glory (Matthew 13:39-49; 24:31; Daniel 12:1-4; 1 Corinthians. 15:52-54.)

In another sense, the end of the age started with Jesus’ first coming to earth (Hebrews 9:26). In yet another meaning, the end is a time when Jesus, after ruling for a time and

subduing all rebellion, hands his kingdom over to the Father, so God becomes all and in all (1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

Another View of the End

One of the references that this book is based on offers the following perspective.

The "end of the world" does not mean the end of the earth in the sense of annihilation, unless some as of yet unknown change occurs and destroys it. Ultimately, the physical world is not involved in human salvation or the coming of the end. This is because the destiny of humans is to, after a short physical life ending in death, come to a habitation in the spirit world.

Jesus is not coming to establish his kingdom on the earth as many believe. Rather he is working on restoring the world of human immortality and happiness that was lost by the rebellion of the first parents. The Kingdom of God which he and his followers on earth and in the spirit world are establishing is in the Celestial Heavens. It is not made by hands or by mere fiat, but rather populated by those who

have experienced the new birth and had their souls transformed into divine essence by the Divine Love of the Father.

Jesus' main mission is not to establish a kingdom on earth except in the sense of helping people by his and other good spirits' love and suggestions to get rid of sin and error from their hearts and thus perfect their natural love. If humans exercise toward each other more natural love, or better still, Divine Love, eventually brotherly love will cover the world and peace and happiness will prevail. This may be called the Kingdom of God on earth, but the real kingdom which Jesus came to establish is the Kingdom of Heaven with its place in the Celestial Spheres.

So when the Bible speaks of an end of the world, it is not the physical world, but rather *the world of thoughts and deeds that are out of harmony with God's laws*. This world shall be destroyed when righteousness covers the earth and brotherly love reigns across the globe. Some already live in this state, being in the world, but not of it as far as participating in its sinful practices.

The wars and unprecedented trouble before the end may be conflicts among nations using deadly weapons, as well as the result of earth changes and natural disasters to which humanity and man-made structures are very vulnerable.

However, there will also be wars of the spirits of good and evil, of love and hate, of purity and sin, of joy and despair, and of knowledge of truth and belief in error. These wars will be and already are fought in human souls with such intensity that the effects will be felt worldwide. Then shall pass away the world of evil, sin and erroneous beliefs that has brought untold suffering. Eventually, truth, love and peace will be established on the earth.

Personal End of the World

Another meaning of the phrase is end of the world in an individual sense. This is happening around the world every moment. With death, as each person leaves their body and enters the spirit world, the end of their world has come. So the important thing to be concerned

about is not so much the passing away of the heavens and the earth, but the passing of ourselves from the earth to the next world. Since we reap what we sow, it is vital to make the most of our lives here in terms of doing what is right. Our thoughts and deeds during our mortal life will determine whether we'll reap a glorious life of immortality, or a temporary or a long life in darkness and suffering.

Hope Ahead

There is hope that up ahead is the passing away of the world of sin, error, hate and hostility, all of which have brought about incredible suffering. The spiritual outcome will be a new world of loving brotherhood of humanity living in peace and harmony with each other. Gone will be wars, conflicts and the many vices plaguing our world today (Isaiah 2:2-4; 11:6-9; 32:18; 65:25).

Eventually, all humans and spirits will reach one of the following: A state of soul purification and a high level of their natural love that will

give them a place and condition of great happiness in the spirit world; or a state of soul transformation from divine image to divine substance, which will give them immortal life as divine angels in the Celestial Kingdom, unlimited potential for growth and supreme happiness.

Each of us individually has a choice in helping to solve the problem of evil for ourselves and in our sphere of influence (which may be greater than we realize). The spiritual outcome depends on our thoughts and actions here and now, as we all reap what we have sown.

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Further Reading

Angelic Revelations of Divine Truth, Volume I

Angelic Revelations of Divine Truth, Volume II

http://new-birth.net/samuels-messages/76-sermons-on-the-old-testament-given-by-jesus/sermon-54-habakkuk-singer-and-student-of-the-psalms/

http://new-birth.net/padgetts-messages/true-gospel-revealed-anew-by-jesus-volume-2/luke-the-development-of-the-soul-in-its-natural-love-cont-vol-2-pg371/

http://new-birth.net/padgetts-messages/true-gospel-revealed-anew-by-jesus-volume-2/the-sins-of-the-parents-are-visited-upon-the-children-vol-2-pg238/

http://new-birth.net/padgetts-messages/true-gospel-revealed-anew-by-jesus-volume-2/luke-

makes-some-corrections-in-the-previous-message-vol-2-pg242/

http://new-birth.net/padgetts-messages/true-gospel-revealed-anew-by-jesus-volume-1/bringing-about-the-great-millennium-etc-vol-1-pg340/

http://new-birth.net/padgetts-messages/true-gospel-revealed-anew-by-jesus-volume-1/what-men-can-do-to-eradicate-war-vol-1-pg232/

http://new-birth.net/padgetts-messages/true-gospel-revealed-anew-by-jesus-volume-2/how-a-mortal-may-obtain-the-development-of-his-soul-vol-2-pg363/

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About the Author



Eva Peck has an international and Christian background and is an ordained minister and trustee in the Foundation Church of Divine Truth. Having lived and worked in Australia, the United States, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, including teaching English as a foreign language, she has experienced a range of cultures, customs, and environments. She now draws on those experiences in her writing.

Eva has a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences, a post-graduate Diploma in Education, and a Master's degree in Theology. Since her retirement from teaching, she has been devoting her time to spiritual pursuits. She has written and published a number of books

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Eva lives in Brisbane, Australia, with her cat Whitey. Her husband, Alex, co-author of several books, passed away in 2025.

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- *Divine Insights from Human Life,* Eva Peck
- *Pathway to Life - Through the Holy Scriptures,* Eva and Alexander Peck
- *Journey to the Divine Within – Through Silence, Stillness and Simplicity,* Alexander and Eva Peck
- *Gospel of God's Grace and His Kingdom*, Eva Peck
- *New Birth – Pathway to the Kingdom of God*, Eva Peck
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The Problem of Evil

In our sad and restless world desperately trying to find a way to love and peace but largely encountering wars, violence, hate, and selfishness, many are asking why this is so. If there is a God, why does He allow evil? Why such man's inhumanity to man when humans are also capable of incredibly heroic and loving deeds? Why such paradoxes as amazing technological advances on the one hand and great moral depravity, greed, and disregard for the well-being of others on the other? People have pondered these questions for centuries.

This book doesn't claim to have all the answers, but presents a few ideas for consideration.



Eva Peck has an international and Christian background and is an ordained minister in the Foundation Church of Divine Truth. She has written and published a number of books on spiritual themes, as well as building and maintaining several websites. Eva lives in Brisbane, Australia, with her husband, Alex.

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