

THE ORIGIN AND PURPOSE OF EVIL

By Frank L. Hassinger

Titles replaced with Sacred Names &

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The scaffolding does not become an essential part of a proposed building or edifice. But it is prearranged and planned by the same mind that planned the building. The means and the ends of the building are prearranged and perfected by the minds of the engineers and the architects before the first step is ventured upon.

If you have ever been a sidewalk superintendent and watched a building being constructed, the first thing you would have seen is the crew digging down to a solid foundation and then beginning to build up. As they build, they construct scaffolding upon which to do the work.

Somewhere in another part of town is an office where engineers and architects have the plans for the finished building already landscaped on paper. This is what has been going on around us since the beginning of time.

Yahweh is good. He is Kodesh. He is perfect. And He could only purpose for Himself the accomplishment of a good end. Perfect goodness could not entertain the thought of such terrible ends as unending agony and annihilation. Yahweh, therefore, could not conceive anything less than the absolute. Since man is not a divine plaything Yahweh has planned for the evil that man must endure to be a prelude to a future divine eternity. Therefore, **evil is only permitted by Yahweh as the means to a good end**. When that divine end is completed, the means will pass away. Just as the crew will pull down the scaffolding when the building is completed. This is a long, drawn-out process.

In Genesis 1:26 we read; *And Yahweh said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:...* This is Yahweh's master plan, to make man into His likeness. Now how is Yahweh going to complete this plan? This is where evil comes into the picture. Let's turn to I Corinthians 15:45-48: *And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual,*

but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthly: the second man is Elohim from heaven. As is the earthly, such are they also that are earthly: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.

Now here we have the building or edifice. To attain the future perfecting of this master building, we need the scaffolding. This is the purpose of evil in a nut shell. To see more clearly this purpose of evil, we need to turn to Ecclesiastes 1:13; *And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath Yahweh given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith.*

Evil is used to exercise and humble men to develop and finish them into the image and likeness of Yahweh. Lamentations 3:31-34 says; *For Yahweh will not cast off for ever: But through he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.*

The Bible tells us in I John 1:5; *This is the message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you, that Yahweh is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.*

The fact that evil and sin do exist shows that at one time they had to be created. Let's turn to Isaiah 45:7; *I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and **CREATE EVIL**: I YAHWEH do all things.*

Amos 3:6 says; *Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? Shall there be evil in a city, and YAHWEH hath not done it?* Yahweh then had to bring into existence an adversary to perform and manipulate this created evil and sin.

Paul makes it very plain and clear in Romans 7:23; *But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is my members.* This law of sin was created in the beginning by Yahweh. We find in Ezekiel 28:14-15 that Yahweh created Lucifer. He was created perfect as far as perfection goes, but he was created as a free agent to decide for himself what do so, and he was the first to use the law of sin. We can see if we turn to Genesis 1:11 that the tree of **GOOD AND EVIL** was created on the third day, and Adam was created on the sixth day. Now we know for sure that Satan did not

plant the tree of good and evil. Genesis 2:9 tells us that Yahweh planted it. We can see by this that the origin of evil is with Yahweh.

Does the Bible tell us how Yahweh uses this scaffolding of evil and sin to build His master building? We shall see. But first let us get a glimpse of this finished building. Turn to Revelation 21:2; 9-23 and we can see this magnificent building. We see here what the engineers and architects see when they look at their blueprints.

The great men of the Bible can teach us a lot about how Yahweh is building and working out His master plan. These men are Yahweh's saints. Men like Joseph, Moses, Daniel, Solomon, Abraham and Samson. These are the men we should study.

If we read the story about Jacob in Genesis 27:6-25, we can positively see the Hand of Yahweh in all this. It was Yahweh's intention that Jacob and his mother connived and did evil to accomplish their purpose, but Yahweh used this evil to fulfill His plans.

We can see the plan of Yahweh unfolding in the story of Samson in Judges 14:1-4. Samson wanted a Philistine wife and asked his mother and father to get one for him. Note verse 4; *...his father and mother knew not that his was of Yahweh...* The whole story unfolds and we can see how Yahweh used this evil to complete His purpose. Yahweh played a drama for twenty years in regard to the Philistines and Israel. The evil that is in this drama is part of the scaffolding. It taught the Philistines a good lesson, and I am sure Samson learned a good lesson. They were both exercised and humbled as a result of this evil. Samson is recorded in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews as a man of faith.

We now go to the drama of Joseph in Genesis 37:19-36. Joseph was a tool in the hands of Yahweh. Joseph knew how evil and sin is manipulated by Satan. What evil and sin these brothers committed. But let us not lose sight of Yahweh in all these dramas. If we turn to Genesis 45:4-9, it was the brothers that did this evil. But Yahweh used this for His purpose.

Yahweh has two ways when working with mankind--the relative and the absolute. In man's thinking, it is all relative in the dramas that Yahweh is working out. In the relative, the brothers sold Joseph. But, in the

absolute, Yahweh sold him. Here we see the scaffolding again, very plainly. There is always the relative and the absolute. We must always keep this in mind and never take our eyes off Yahweh. We can see that if we turn to Daniel 4:17 and 5:21. Man will deal with the relative all right, but only Yahweh only judge the Pharaoh of Egypt and men like Hitler and Eichmann for what they have done. Yahweh knows what He raised them up to do. We find this in scriptures, and we can understand the relative and the absolute better when we read it.

Romans 9:21 states; *Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?*

II Timothy 2:19-21 states; *Nevertheless the solid foundation of Yahweh stands, having the seal: Yahweh knows those who are His, and Let everyone who names the name of Messiah depart from iniquity. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter; he will be a vessel of honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.*

We must pause here and think what this scripture is revealing to us. Here it explains the very purpose of evil. If we are a vessel to dishonor and we depart from iniquity, we can be bolded into a vessel of honor by the potter. If Yahweh had created all good, we would not be able to choose. In Deuteronomy 30:15 Yahweh says; *See, I have set before thee this day, life and death. Yahweh has get **good and evil** before us so we can choose.* And in Deuteronomy 30:19; *I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.* Yahweh said He did all this. Can we begin to see the scaffolding and purpose of the Almighty in creating evil?

Getting back to the drama of Joseph, we must now turn to Genesis 50:16-19. We see here what Jacob told his sons to say to Joseph. But Joseph's answer was astonishing. Here we can see the scaffolding of evil very plainly.

Verse 20; *But as for you, you meant evil against me; but Yahweh meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many*

people alive.

What a jewel Joseph was to see the absolute and the relative. We need to entertain two thoughts here. Joseph suffered because of his brothers, and he also suffered for his brothers. What a perfect plan of Yahweh. This is a good picture of justification. Read Romans 5 to get the whole picture. This is exactly what happened in the death of Messiah for us.

Now we continue with the origin and purpose of evil. For another picture let's turn to Exodus 9:16; *And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.*

This was said about the Pharaoh of Egypt by Moses. Someday Hitler and Eichmann will be resurrected and they will finally see that the great drama they enacted in Germany will enhance the glory of Yahweh.

Colossians 1:16 tells us; *All things were created by Messiah for Messiah.* Revelation 4:11 explains; *All things were created by Messiah and for His pleasure.* Romans 5 is a marvelous chapter in understanding this principle of Yahweh for the origin and purpose of evil. The grace of Yahweh is enhanced by the evil in the world. Romans 5:20-21 says; *Moreover the law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Yahshua Messiah our Master.*

Someday we will see the great display of Yahweh's grace, and it will stagger our imagination. This grace will exceed and excel all the evil that has ever been done. This should give us a vision into the future plans of Yahweh. We must keep our eyes on Yahweh and the absolute. This is the very purpose of the millennium and beyond. Ephesians 3:20-21 tells us this grace will abound throughout all ages.

We return to the drama in Exodus 9:16. What a mean and stubborn individual Pharaoh was. All though this drama was the hidden hand of Yahweh. In Exodus 9:35 we see Yahweh using Pharaoh to fulfill His hidden intent. Ephesians 1:10-11 says: *That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Messiah, both which are*

in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.

Many drams have been played out throughout the Bible. Jonah played out his part in this drama. This was so important that Messiah used it as the only proof that He was the Messiah. Read the story of Jonah and see the hidden intent of Yahweh.

Another drama was the story of Judas. Six hundred years before Judas was born, it was decreed that Judas would do what he did. There is more behind the story of Judas than meets the eye. It was intended that Messiah should die and this was the absolute will of Yahweh. But the sin that brought this about was the scaffolding of the great building Yahweh is constructing. Romans 1:1 shows Paul was raised up for his part in the plan of Yahweh. Galatians 1:15 says; *But when it pleased Yahweh, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace.* Yahweh chose Paul the day he was born.

We could continue on and on with scripture after scripture showing how Yahweh performs in the affairs of men and this world. But sometimes we do not comprehend what Yahweh is really teaching us. As Paul tells us in I Corinthians 13:12, we see through a glass darkly. Paul did not understand all mysteries, neither did Daniel. But Paul understood more than Peter and the other apostles, more than any man alive at that time. This is why Peter said in II Peter 3:16; *His sayings were hard to understand.*

How does all this relate to us, Yahweh's people? Sometimes we, as individuals, get mixed up and cannot understand where we fit into the picture and the divine plan of Yahweh. None of us are here by accident.

If we understand the purpose of evil and sin, we can understand what Yahweh is completing through us. We are Yahweh's building, each one of us. I Corinthians 3:9 says; *For we are laborers together with Yahweh: ye are Yahweh's husbandry, ye are Yahweh's building.* I Corinthians 3:17 tells us; *If any man defile the temple of Yahweh, him shall Yahweh destroy; for the temple of Yahweh is kodesh, which temple ye are.*

This scaffolding of evil and sin is all around us, and we must

understand its purpose. All humanity lives in the relative. This is the way Yahweh has created all people. The relative to us is what we can see, smell, hear, touch and taste. Yahweh makes sin relative to these senses. But Yahweh does not restrict Himself to the relative. He moves and lives in the absolute. This is what we must understand.

Turn to I Corinthians 2:9-16 and read every verse. Sin we know, we all are experiencing it continually. But Yahweh's grace is sufficient to build us up into the building of His choice.

Ecclesiastes 1:13 says; *And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath Yahweh given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith.* The purpose of evil is spelled out in Ecclesiastes 3.

The word "exercised" in Ecclesiastes 1:1-13 and chapter 3 verse 10 gives us full understanding of the purpose of evil. In Strong's Concordance, the word is #6031 in Hebrew and #1128 in Greek. The word in Hebrew means to abase itself, chasten self, humble self and submit self. In Greek, it means to train and exercise. This word is used in Hebrews 5:14; *But strong meat belonged to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses **exercised** to discern both good and evil.*

Hebrews 6:1 reveals to us the express will of Yahweh; *Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Messiah, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward Yahweh.* If we are going to be perfected, we must know and distinguish good and evil. We can only continue unto perfection if Yahweh permits us to do so. [See Hebrew 6:3] Peter shows us what we must do in Acts 2:38; *Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua Messiah for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Kodesh Spirit.*

If sin was not created in the beginning, we could not repent. Revelation 13:8, a very strong and hard scripture to understand, talks of *the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world*. This Lamb had been appointed to be slain before Adam was created and before Lucifer was created and given dominion over the earth.

Sin was put before us so that we could overcome. This is the purpose of evil. Revelation 2:11 says; *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the assemblies; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death. Verse 17 states: To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. And in verses 26 and 28 we see; And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations. ...And I will give him the morning star.*

Revelation 3:5 promises; *He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. Verse 12 says; Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my Elohim. Verse 21; To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.*

In this scripture it is revealed to us that Messiah overcame the same evil and sin He created. Colossians 1:16 says; *For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him. Messiah created these same principalities, and powers we must wrestle against. Sin and evil have their purpose. We must be tempted, tried and tested. Without sin, this would not be possible.*

This whole matter comes down to one conclusion. James 1:12 explains; *Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Master hath promised to them that love him.*

Romans 8:28 promises; *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love Yahweh, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*