# **All for the Glory of God! (Yes, Even Evil)**

* If evil is not a thing, what is it?
* Define or describe evil.
* Are you prepared to answer the questions about evil from Christianity’s skeptics?
* From where does evil come?
* How is the use of evil by a good God not evil?
* Have you experienced evil/suffering in your life? How did you initially respond to it? Or, after you have matured in Christ (as the prison epistles taught), how has your response to that evil changed?

Four doctrines increase the probability of the coexistence of God and suffering:

1. The chief purpose of life is not happiness but the knowledge of God.
2. Mankind is in a state of rebellion against God and his purposes.
3. God’s purpose is not restricted to this life but spills over beyond the grave into eternal life.
4. The knowledge of God is an incommensurable good.
* What do you tend to value more: temporal happiness or knowledge of God?  How does that affect your actions and reactions?
* **From 1900 to 2000, human history has been described as the bloodiest century (determined by deaths) in the history of man for the total count of death by murder, war, or famine, aka evil!
So a period of tremendous growth in believers in Christ (source below) happened during the most extreme century of evil. Fredrich Nietzsche (atheist) predicted in the early twentieth century that, if we eliminate belief in God, chaos will transcend.**

Across the centuries, the constantly decreasing number of non-Christians per committed Christians.

* Non-Christian means “people who do not consider themselves to be Christians.”
* Committed Christians here means “people who read, believe, and obey the Bible.”

The specific numbers here are correct within a small percentage, except for the earlier centuries.

**Source: Lausanne Statistic’s Task Force, headed by David Barrett Ph. D., author of the World Christian Encyclopedia**

* 100 AD ‒ There were 360 non-Christians for every 1 Christian believer.
* 1000 AD ‒ 220:1
* 1500 AD ‒ 69:1
* 1900 AD ‒ 27:1
* 1950 AD ‒ 21:1
* 1980 AD ‒ 11:1
* 1989 AD ‒ 7:1
* 2010 AD ‒ 4:1