

| Free Will |
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| Original Sin |
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Other Christians claim that an all-loving and all-powerful deity allows evil because it is only through pain and suffering that human souls can be developed and perfected. Make a note about how both the soul-deciding defence and the soul-making defence to the problem of evil work.

| How the Problem of Evil Works | |
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| Soul-Deciding Defence | Soul-Making Defence |
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3. **Why** is the problem of evil important?

How people respond to the problem of evil has a significant effect on whether they subscribe to atheism, agnosticism or theism. For example, Christians who accept the soul-deciding defence maintain their faith by insisting that the God-given gift of free will gives rise to evil as an unavoidable byproduct, whilst Christians who accept the soul-making defence claim pain and suffering can develop human souls. However, for some people, the problem presented by the existence of evil is just too much. Make a note about why the problem of evil is important.

| Why the Problem of Evil Is Important |
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