#### **DEFENSE OF THE FAITH SERIES**



Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.

But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear.

Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

# CHRISTIANITY IS NOT AFRAID OF QUESTIONS

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Matthew 7:7–8 (NIV)



When we think about Christianity we typically think in terms of faith, but that doesn't mean we should check our intellect at the door when we walk into church.

While Christianity IS about faith, it is not a blind faith!

### WE INTUITIVELY KNOW THERE IS A GOD

Christianity is not afraid of questions

They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature.

So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

Romans 1:19-20 (NLT)

# WHY WOULD A GOOD GOD ALLOW ALL THIS EVIL IN THE WORLD?

- Christianity is not afraid of questions
- We intuitively know there is a God

 If God is good, then He must not be powerful.

 If God is powerful, then He must not be good.

 Therefore, God is either not good or not powerful.

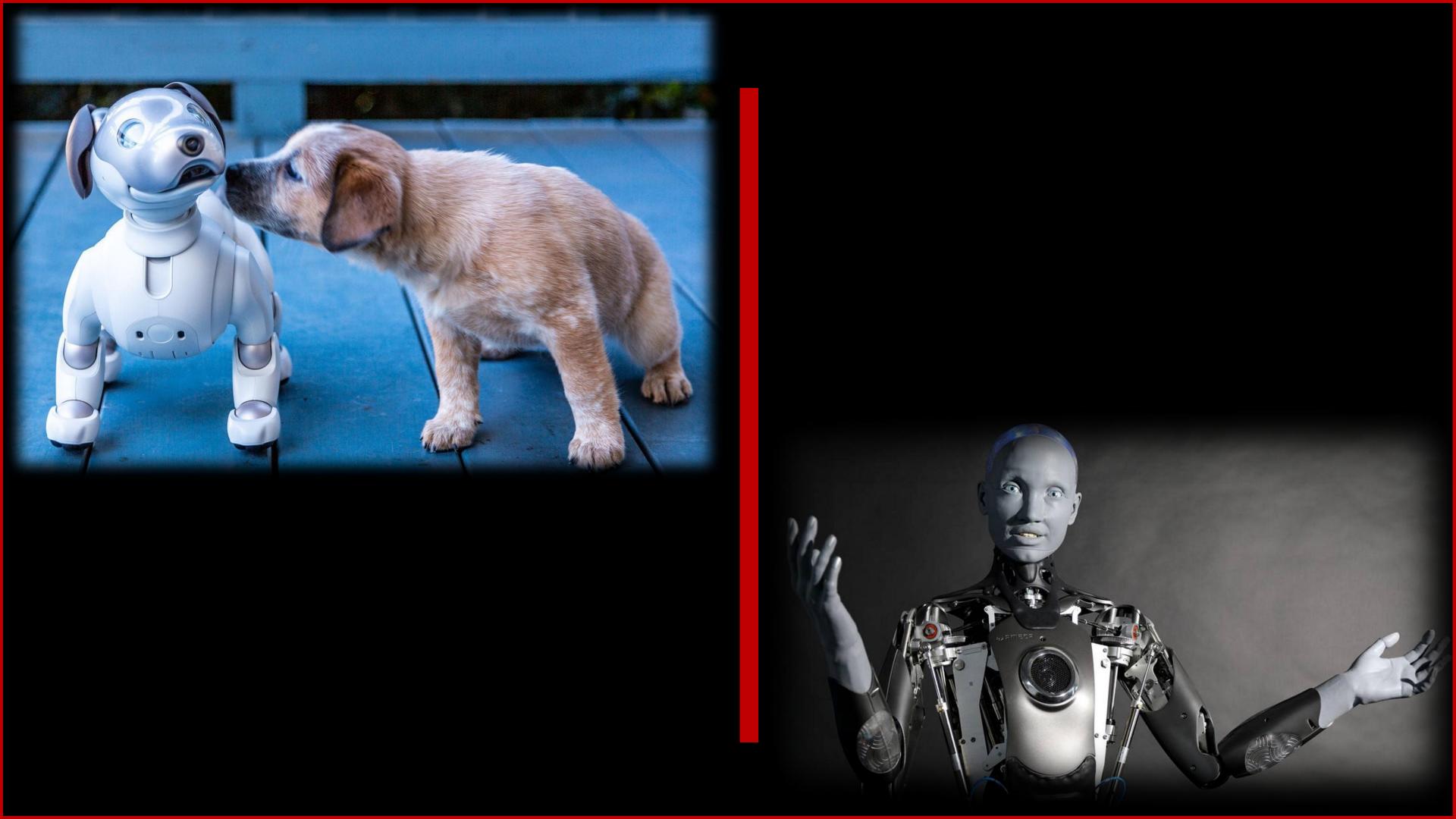




What if there was a reason to allow evil?

What would God have to do to remove the possibility of evil in the world?

Indeed, there is no one on earth who is righteous, no one who does what is right and never sins.





For God to remove the possibility of evil, He would have to remove our free will, but free will is at the heart of everything meaningful in our lives.

Would God still be good if He did not allow us that freedom?"



# IF GOD CREATED EVERYTHING, DID HE CREATE EVIL?

- Christianity is not afraid of questions
- We intuitively know there is a God
- Why would a good God allow all this evil in the world?

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.



God did not create evil.

God created the opportunity for evil when He gave us a free will.

God made evil possible. Man made evil actual.

## CAN THERE EVEN BE "EVIL" IF THERE IS NO GOD?

- Christianity is not afraid of questions
- We intuitively know there is a God
- Why would a good God allow all this evil in the world?
- If God created everything, did He create evil?

Even Gentiles, who do not have God's written law, show that they know his law when they instinctively obey it, even without having heard it.

They demonstrate that God's law is written in their hearts, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they are doing right.

Romans 2:14-15 (NLT)



When someone claims evil exists, they're also affirming that good exists.

That distinction requires a moral law to define what is good and what is evil.

And where there is a moral law, there must be a moral lawgiver behind it.



My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust?

(C. S. Lewis)

izquotes.com

1. If there is no God, objective moral values and duties do not exist

2. But objective moral values and duties do exist

3. Therefore, there is a God



### GOD IS THE ULTIMATE GOOD!

- Christianity is not afraid of questions.
- We intuitively know there is a God.
- Why would a good God allow this evil in the world?
- If God created everything, did He create evil?
- Can there even be evil if there is no God?

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:6 (NIV)

- Christianity is not afraid of questions.
- We intuitively know there is a God.
- Why would a good God allow all this evil in the world?
- If God created everything, did He create evil?
- Can there even be evil if there is no God?
- God is the ultimate good!



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