



WHY DOES EVIL EXIST?

Slide 1

*From the start of our talks we have seen how God created **Slide 2** the universe as well as man and woman, **Slide 3** Adam and Eve. How he placed them in a beautiful garden where they lived in perfect bliss that was Heaven. But this paradise ... **Slide 4** where is it today? We can ask ourselves the question. **Slide 5** Why do so many people suffer, why wickedness, catastrophes? What happened?*

We are going to reflect on these big questions and find out what happened while Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden.

*In this story, there is a liar, **Slide 6** I suggest you spot him.*

Slide 7 WHY DOES EVIL EXIST?

Slide 8 God made all things very good and beautiful. So **Slide 9** where does evil come from? Is God Wrong? No! He was not mistaken and evil does not come from Him; but someone came **Slide 10** to spoil, to damage, all this magnificent work, an enemy ... an enemy of God and of men. Do you know who this enemy is? **Slide 11** He's the devil, we call him Satan. You have certainly heard of it.

Once upon a time, the devil was **Slide 12** a flaming creature of God. But one day he got terribly proud, he wanted to take God's place and run everything. **Slide 13** He rebelled and in his wickedness he brought with him other angels, these are the demons.

It all happened in heaven

Slide 14 But let's come back to the earth where Adam and Eve lived happily in the Garden of Eden in the presence of God.

Slide 15 Their happiness could last forever, it was enough for them to continue to love and obey God.

God had said to Adam, **Slide 16** "You can eat the fruit of all the trees in the garden. But there is **Slide 17** one tree whose fruit you must not eat; it is the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The day **Slide 18** you eat it, you will die for sure. "

Adam was free to choose to obey or not, but he was clearly warned of the consequences.

And... why should he want to touch it? There were so many **Slide 19** other trees, just as excellent.

One day **Slide 20** the devil approached the woman in the guise of a snake. He tells her :

Slide 21 - Did God really say to you: Do not eat any fruit of the garden?

Slide 22 - We can eat the fruits of the garden, replied Eve, but for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, God said: "Do not eat its fruit and **Slide 23** do not touch it lest you die"

Slide 24 - But not at all! **Slide 25** You will not die! said the devil, God knows it, the day you eat it, your eyes will open and **Slide 26** you will be like gods, you will be able to know what is good and what is bad.

Slide 27 Eve began to have doubts: Did God really wants them to be happy? Did He want to deprive them of something? **Slide 28** Was He telling the truth? ... Being like gods...

Slide 29 She looked at the tree.

Slide 30 - They are beautiful fruits, they must be good. They make you want to eat it.

Slide 31 She held out her hand. She took a piece of fruit and ate it.

She went to her husband.

Slide 32 - Here, take this fruit and eat it, she said to him.

Adam took it and ate it.

Slide 33 They did not fall dead on the ground but their eyes were opened!

Do you know what they saw? They saw their misery, their disobedience.

They saw themselves naked, **Slide 34** guilty before God. They were ashamed. They had only one thought left: to hide. They made a kind of loincloth with tree leaves.

Slide 35 That night, like every night, God came into the garden. He calls:

Slide 36 - Adam! Adam! Where are you?

- I heard you but **Slide 37** I was scared because I'm naked, so I hid, Adam replied

Slide 38 - Who told you that you were naked? asked God. Did you eat the fruit that I forbade you?

Slide 39 - The woman, it was she who gave me this fruit and I ate it.

- Eve, what did you do? said god

Slide 40 - The serpent deceived me, she replied, and I ate the fruit.

Slide 41 Turning to the serpent, God said: - Since you did this, **Slide 42** I curse you among all the animals, you will crawl on your stomach and you will eat dust every day of your life.

Slide 43 One day a descendant of a woman will come and he will be victorious over you.

Slide 44 From that day everything changed because Adam and Eve had chosen to obey the devil and turn their backs on God. They cannot stay in the Garden of Eden; there is no

place for evil in the presence of God. So they were separated from their creator, this separation is a kind of death. **Slide 45** Work will become painful; the earth will produce all kinds of thorns. They were going to experience fatigue, worries, illness. They were going to grow old and die, as God had said.

They had opened the door to evil which very **Slide 46** quickly multiplied on earth and in the hearts of all men. Since that day, you understand, this is no longer paradise on earth.

Slide 47 Despite their disobedience, God did not forsake Adam and Eve. He made them clothes out of animal skin and He promised them to reestablish contact, relationship with Him. This is what we will see in our next talk.

Slide 48 1, 2 3, 4 AND YOU AND ME!

*You know that, you don't have to go to school to learn **Slide 49** to get angry, to lie or to disobey... Why is that? Because evil is in **Slide 50** the hearts of all human beings from birth, both in my heart and in yours.*

*We are not perfect, but **Slide 51** God continues to love us, He wants our good, and He wants to re-establish contact with us. And we'll see how He does it.*

Slide 52 *By the way, the liar? ... Did you spot him? **Slide 53** Yes, it's the devil.*

Slide 54 *If you have a Bible, you can find this story in the first book, **Slide 55** Genesis, in chapter 3.*

Slide 56 4, 3, 2, 1 AND WE PARENTS!

*The origin of evil, suffering, these are subjects that can raise many questions. We don't always have the answer, especially when suffering touches us very closely. Tears and pain are part of the life of all humans; **Slide 57** but we believe that in the storm, God does not abandon us, He wants to support us, to accompany us.*

Slide 58 *This story highlights the break between man and his creator. But God Himself provided for the relationship to be restored. This is the promise made to Adam and Eve.*

Slide 59