

A lot of people ask the question, 'If God is real, why doesn't he get rid of all the evil and suffering in the world?' The problem is that if God were to get rid of all the evil he would have to get rid of us. Yes, we might not have strapped on a bomb jacket or gunned down innocent people, but we have hated others in our hearts. We have rejected God and lived for ourselves. When we examine our own lives, we can remember the times we have hurt others and if we are honest with ourselves, we are part of the problem.

The Bible says that, '*perfect love casts out fear.*' God loves all people and this perfect love was revealed to humankind when he sent his Son, Jesus Christ into the world. The love of God was ultimately demonstrated when Jesus, the Son of God, died on the cross, not for his own sins, but for the sins of the whole world. '*Christ died for us.*' Have you come to understand and appreciate the love of God for you? The very meaning of the word '*love,*' implies a reciprocal relationship. Have you ever come to God with a

If God is real, why doesn't he get rid of all the evil?

thankful heart and trusted in Jesus to save you from the consequences of your sins?

In the power of his love, those who trust in Christ are transformed — they enjoy the peace of knowing sins forgiven and they do not fear future judgement. They love one another because they have come to understand something of the love of God and his love shines through them. You may still ask the question: Why does God allow these terrible acts of violence to take place? Apart from undermining the free will he has given human beings, I do not know. But I do know that his heart grieves over the pain, the hurt and the suffering that terrorism brings to our world. He doesn't just care for the victims of violence, he shared in our sufferings and was willing to lay down his life for his enemies.

I do believe that the only power that can dispel the hatred in our world is the love of Jesus Christ. '*He is being patient with you, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*'

If God were to get rid of all the evil he would have to get rid of us

How will you respond to the perfect love of Jesus? Will you turn from your sin and trust in his sacrifice for you on the cross?

Jesus not only died, but he rose again, defeating our greatest enemy, death. He offers eternal life to all those who believe. This eternal life starts today. We can enjoy a living relationship with Jesus and be transformed by the power of his love.

Scan the QR code to watch the interview of an ex-terrorist whose life was changed when he trusted in Jesus and became a Christian.

If you would like to find out more, please email jonihudson@foundationmatters.org and we can send you a free John's Gospel.

DayOne



I would like to know more about Jesus Christ.

- Please send me a free copy of John's Gospel (a book of the Bible that describes Jesus' life).
- Please send me a free booklet on how to become a Christian.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____



Joni Hudson,
Pine lake, Stenson, Barrow on
Trent, Derbyshire, DE73 7GB
Or visit: foundationmatters.org

10 Publishing
a division of 10 of those.com
www.10ofthose.com



KEEP
CALM
AND
FEAR
NO
EVIL

BY JONI HUDSON

KEEP CALM AND FEAR NO EVIL

BY JONI HUDSON

Terrorism. We hear of another attack. More people are wounded or even killed. These horrifying acts of violence startle us, but how exactly should we respond?

Here are some statistics to calm your nerves:

- * You are three times more likely to be struck by lightning, than be killed in a terrorist attack
- * Bees and wasps have caused as many deaths in the UK as terrorism in the past decade.

‘The hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God.’

This warning, actually given by Jesus, is bang up to date! Terrorists have put fear into the hearts of people all over the world. The perpetrators are driven by either their strong political allegiances, their interpretation of sacred writings, or both.

Not all radical beliefs lead to acts of violence.

teaching of Jesus is that he practiced what he preached. He showed love to the social outcast. He cared for the poor and embraced the untouchables.

His ministry was short-lived as his enemies grew jealous of his following. Their jealousy led to hatred and they plotted his death. Jesus was falsely accused and handed over to the Romans for execution. What seems remarkable is that throughout his trial, he never once tried to defend himself. Whilst being humiliated and tortured, he never once opened his mouth. Those who were at the execution scene mocked Jesus as he hung on the cross. Listen to the calm voice of Jesus: *‘Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.’*

Paul, a former terrorist amongst early Christians, was so inspired by the testimony of Jesus and his followers that he later wrote these words:

‘Overcome evil with good.’ This simple but natural formula is expressed perfectly in the supernatural work of Jesus on the cross. From the human standpoint, the events surrounding the

death of Jesus Christ leave us with lots of questions unanswered and we are left wondering *‘Why?’*

The Bible says that *‘while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.’* When we read the narrative for ourselves, we discover that for Jesus, the cross was always at the forefront of his mind. His face was set toward Jerusalem and numerous times he predicted his future suffering. He would be lifted up from the earth to die. The question is this: *‘Why would we need someone to die for us?’* The wrong things that we do, the harmful things that we say and the bad attitudes in our hearts all contribute to the mess we experience in our world. Our sins, the Bible calls them, separate us from a perfect God not only in this life, but in the life to come.

It is important for us to establish in our minds that not all radical beliefs lead to acts of violence. For instance, Jesus taught this: *‘Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.’* Could this be the answer to all the trouble? Can you imagine what would happen if both sides in the event of war decided to love one another and pray for one another? The teachings of Jesus drew the crowds and as such the people wanted to make him king. When the religious leaders opposed him, Jesus only exposed their hypocrisy. The most profound thing about the

‘Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.’