

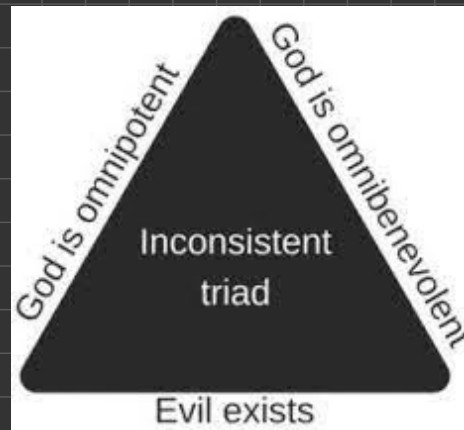
## THEISTIC VIEWS ON EVIL:

1. FREEWILL argument= evil exists as people misuse their freewill, demonstrated in Genesis 3 when Adam & Eve 'fell from grace', resulting in original sin.
2. St Augustine's theodicies in the Enchiridion argue: evil is a privation of good, we need a contrast to appreciate good, evil builds character (John Hick called this soul making.)
3. Book of Job: depicts God's transcendence, humans cannot fathom God's justifications for evil which can result in a net good e.g. via the atonement.
4. McCord Adams: we should focus on upholding faith despite existence of evil (uses the parable of the heart surgery.)
5. Jewish stance: don't believe we inherited original sin, instead have 2 inclinations: 'yetzer ha ra' & 'yetzer ha tov' (to do bad/to do good), God is merciful so gave Jews Yom Kippur & Rosh Hashanah to repent.

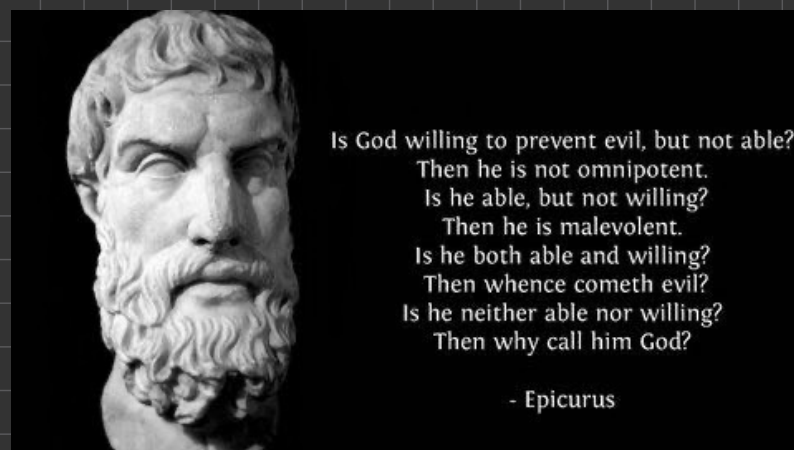
## good and evil

### SECULAR VIEWS ON EVIL:

1. Hume's inconsistent triad: concludes God doesn't exist as he cannot be benevolent, omnipotent & permit the existence of evil.



2. Mackie addresses St Augustine, stating: evil is too abundant, the ability to not choose evil isn't a requirement of freewill, evil makes people bitter, don't need a contrast to appreciate goodness.



good and evil

## CATHOLIC AMBIVALENCE TO SUFFERING:

Job: 'to turn away from evil is understanding'

Beatitudes: 'the poor in spirit will inherit the kingdom of heaven'

Passion narrative shows the net good generated via the atonement.

Suffering: is a blessing, sign of commitment & can result in a net good.



Sermon on the mount

## good and evil

### INCARNATION:

Jesus was begotten not born & is the incarnate son (God made flesh.)

Evidence of Jesus' divinity: miracles, Beatitudes & Sermon on the mount = expression of moral authority as he 'fulfilled' the mosaic Decalogue.

Evidence of Jesus' morality: crucifixion-> in the Kenosis hymn, Jesus becomes 'obedient to death.'

Jews reject the incarnation, it doesn't align with the Shema or 'the lord is one'- Deuteronomy.

Jesus doesn't meet criteria for a messiah: didn't rebuilt temple in Israel, was born of the Virgin Mary so not a descendent of David, he is not a political leader who united Israel.



The incarnation is why Catholics celebrate Christmas!

## TRINITY:

Is... 3 unique persons within 1 community of love.

Biblical evidence for the trinity: Jesus' baptism in which the Holy Spirit descended on Christ at the father's command, the NICENE creed and the Genesis plural: 'let US make man in OUR image.'

Importance: upholds monotheism, means that God is love and is therefore eternal (love requires a lover, the beloved & love itself and God's love is reflected through creation.)

Jewish views on the trinity: reject as it alludes to polytheism & denies the oneness of God.





good and evil

## JESUS' MORAL AUTHORITY:

Christians should mirror Jesus' life via discipleship. Jesus exercises his moral authority when: he spends time with outcasts & sinners for he believed nobody is outside the realms of God's forgiveness and when he professes that 'the poor in spirit will inherit the kingdom of God' in the Beatitudes.

## NATURAL LAW:

7 basic goods identified by AQUINAS which supersede all legal systems: these are inherent rights, the more we abide by natural law, in listening to our conscience, the more good there is in the world.



good and evil

## STATUES:

E.g. the central crucifix or the Sacred heart.

Pro statues: act as a focus for prayer & intent, help catholics intercede to the communion of saints & widen our incarnate view of the world.

Anti statues: Jews & Protestants mark statues as being 'idoltary' and claim they break the greatest commandment: 'worship no other Gods before me.'

## MICHELANGELO'S PIETA:

Artistic depiction of the net good generated via the atonement.

Features: a content & still expression of Mary as she accepts the salvation brought about by her son's crucifixion. Mary supporting her son's body to echo her as the 'mother of God' and Jesus' body is wrapped in cloth, representing his divinity & sacredness.



good and evil

## PILGRIMAGES:

Spiritual journeys to physical places/ to God.

Why? To seek spiritual renewal, to see miracles, to partake in penitential acts and communal worship.

CCC: Catholics are God's 'pilgrim people', 'pilgrimages evoke our earthly journey to heaven' & help us live out scripture.

## LOURDES:

Commemorates the veneration of Mary as: 'our lady' & Bernadette's sighting of the 'immaculate conception.'  
Allows Catholics to live out scripture.

Jews: visit the western wall for the shekinah presence.

Protestants: see Lourdes as being too commercial & idolatrous so visit Iona.

