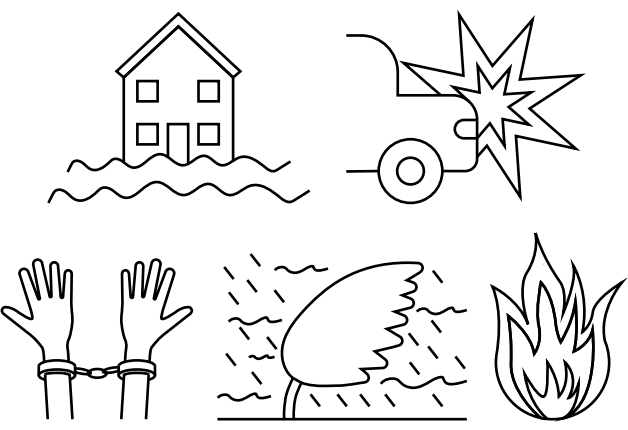


R&W - Why is there suffering? (Part 1)

conscience	The part of a person's mind that tells them whether actions are right or wrong.	response	A reaction or reply to something.
crucifixion	Executing someone by nailing or tying them to a cross.	resurrection	Coming back to life.
evil	Actions or qualities that are morally wrong, harmful or deliberately hurtful.	Satan	Considered a powerful figure symbolising evil and temptation (sometimes referred to as the devil).
temptation	The ability to make choices independently, without being controlled by any external or supernatural influences.	suffering	Experiencing pain, distress or hardship.
hope	Believing that something good might happen in the future.	temptation	The desire to do something, especially something wrong or unwise, often testing someone's ability to resist.

Causes of suffering


Suffering can generally be described as being caused by humans or nature, or sometimes a combination of both such as climate change. People have different beliefs about how the idea of God fits into this.



Balance of good and evil

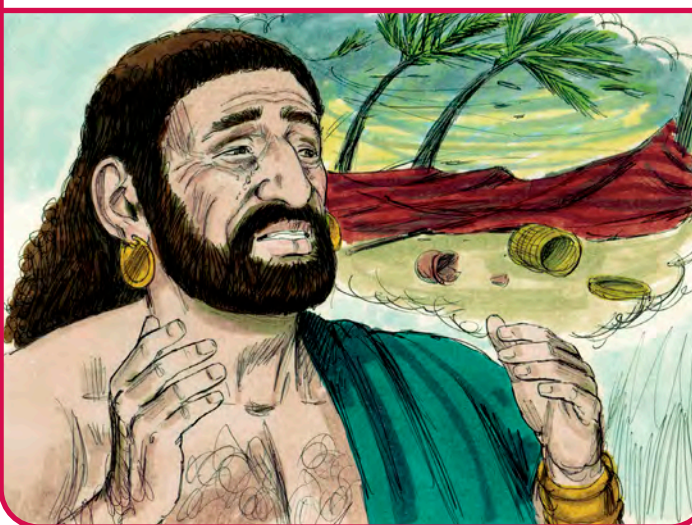


Some Zoroastrians believe there are positive and negative spiritual forces that affect human choice and the balance of good and evil in the world. Key teachings focus on 'good thoughts, good words and good deeds' as a way of living to reduce suffering and contribute to there being more good than evil in the world.



Learning from suffering

For some people, suffering is seen as a way to learn, improve character and develop a stronger relationship with God. The stories of Job and Noah are examples of this from scripture.



R&W - Why is there suffering? (Part 1)

Prayer

The Jewish, Christian and Muslim creation stories all describe God creating a perfect world with no suffering, with suffering being introduced through human actions. Abrahamic religions teach that God is all-seeing, all-knowing, all-loving and all-powerful; this belief means many believers pray during times of suffering for God's intervention and support. For other people, suffering may lead them to the conclusion that there is no God.



Beliefs about Jesus

Beliefs about Jesus are important for Christians when thinking about suffering. The story of Jesus being tempted in the desert and his crucifixion suggest that Jesus experienced and understands human suffering. For many Christians, belief in his resurrection helps them to see suffering as a temporary state that will end when they return to God after death.

