



WE'VE GOT  
QUESTIONS

If God is perfect, then  
**why isn't the world?**

Why do we ask  
questions?

## Deuteronomy 6:20

In the future, when your son asks you, “What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws the Lord our God has commanded you?” ...

Questions are  
necessary for true  
community ***and*** for  
deep faith.

If God is perfect, then  
why isn't the world?

**God *cannot* make a  
perfect world...**

**God *cannot* make a  
perfect world...**

**because God  
alone is perfect  
in perfection.**

# What is God like?

The attributes of God are the qualities of God. God's qualities are perfect (complete) and cannot be improved upon (perfection). Some of God's qualities *can* be shared with the created world; others *cannot* be shared.

**God *chose* not to  
make a perfect  
world...**

**God *chose* not to  
make a perfect  
world...**

**because God chose  
to make a world in  
love and for love.**

God could not create a world without characteristics conducive to the world God desired, such as justice, freedom, order, beauty, and love.

Love, to be love, must be free—not  
coerced, not confused, not mechanical.

**Why doesn't God make the  
world *better*?**

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

If God intervened at every moment we desired, at some point there would be a fundamental shift in the nature of God's created world and no longer a world conducive to forming beings in his image and likeness.

**It's a question that God  
can ask of *us*:**

**Why aren't *you* making  
the world better?**

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

## Matthew 5:43-48

<sup>43</sup> “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

## **Matthew 5:43-48**

He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

## Matthew 5:43-48

<sup>46</sup> If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

## **Matthew 5:43-48**

**48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.**

God created a world with the conditions for it to become the world that God desires: a world of free creatures who may be simply and completely love.

We have acted against all aspects of the  
good created world; we have rebelled  
against the Creator.

The only one who is perfect like the Father is the Son because the Father and Son are of one essence. The Son shares all the attributes of the Father but willingly gave up the rights of divinity to take on flesh—*our* limitations.

“The Son of God suffered unto the death,  
not that [we] might not suffer, but that [our]  
sufferings might be like His.

GEORGE MACDONALD

We can be made perfect like the Father in His indiscriminate love because we can be made like Jesus.

## 2 Peter 1:3-7

<sup>3</sup> His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. <sup>4</sup> Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may **participate in the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

<sup>5</sup> For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; <sup>6</sup> and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; <sup>7</sup> and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, **love**.

**God *is committed*  
to perfecting the  
world...**

**Beyond our  
cooperation and  
against our rebellion.**

“A new Nature is being not merely made but made out of an old one. We live amid all the anomalies, inconveniences, hopes, and excitements of a house that is being rebuilt. Something is being pulled down and something going up in its place.”

C. S. LEWIS, MIRACLES

## Deuteronomy 6:20

<sup>20</sup>In the future, when your son asks you, “What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws the Lord our God has commanded you?” <sup>21</sup>tell him: “We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand.