Problem of Evil

I. Every world view has a problem of evil
   (1) Atheism
   (2) New Age

II. Deductive Problem
    (1) Not contradictory
    (2) No missing premise
      (a) There are limits
      (b) As far as He can?
    (3) Shown to be consistent
    (4) Possible Worlds

III. Inductive Problem
     (1) Free will
     (2) Natural Law
        (a) Constant intervention?
        (b) Another nature?
     (3) Soul making
        (a) Creative Suffering
        (b) Pain shatters illusion
IV. Emotional Problem

(1) *A Grief Observed*

(2) Anger at God

(3) Clouds begin to lift

(4) Unanswerable questions by God?

(5) The Weaver
The Case for the Resurrection

I. What is Resurrection?

   (1) Not just resuscitation
   (2) Not mere influence
   (3) Not just a story

II. What are the evidences?

   (1) Empty Tomb

      (a) Jerusalem origin
      (b) Jews admit it
      (c) Women
      (d) Other alternatives
         (i) Women – Wrong tomb
         (ii) Jews and Romans stole the body
         (iii) Swoon theory – Jesus was crucified + dead + buried

   (2) Appearances

      (a) Both individuals and in groups
         (i) Peter
         (ii) 12
         (iii) 500
         (iv) Road to Emmaus – Luke 24

      (b) Paul - Enemy
         (i) persecuting Church – Acts 7
(ii) Saw Jesus – Acts 9

(c) James – Skeptic
   (i) Did not believe in Jesus – Mark 3:21, 31; 6:3-4; John 7:5
   (ii) Appeared to James – 1 Cor 15:7
   (iii) Leader of Church – Acts 15:12-21

(d) Other Alternatives
   (i) Hallucination
   (ii) Vision

(3) Transformation
   (a) What changed the disciples?
   (b) They went to their death (For a lie?)
   (c) Gave up cherished beliefs
      (i) Sabbath
      (ii) sacrifices
      (iii) sacraments – with joy

III. What are the implications?
(1) Past – Rom 4:25
(2) Present – Rom 8:11
(3) Future – 1 Cor 15:58
Recommended Books on the Resurrection


(9) N.T. Wright, *The Resurrection of the Son of God* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2003). This is the most thorough study of resurrection in other cultures and in the Scriptures ever written. It is especially helpful in countering the (Jesus Seminar type of) radical criticism of the New Testament, providing historical arguments against such views.