



Our cursed world

Adam's disobedience in the Garden of Eden explains the evil in the world (Genesis 1:31).

1

Cosmic Pain & Aging

Adam's act of high treason against the Creator brought pain and natural disasters into God's good universe (Romans 8:22). The creation is no longer as God originally designed it—it is no longer perfect. It is aging, running down (Psalm 102:25–26). But God promises to make a new heaven and earth, where pain and sorrow will cease (Revelation 21:1–4).



4 Disease

After Adam's sin of disobedience, disease entered the creation. This included genetic mistakes (mutations), excessive cell reproduction rates (cancer), and parasites. But God promises that one day sorrows will cease (Revelation 21:4).

6 Carnivores

All animals originally ate plants (Genesis 1:30), but now some are carnivores. The Bible does not explain how meat-eating first entered the world after Adam's sin. But the Bible indicates that carnivores will some day eat plants again—"the lion shall eat straw like the ox" (Isaiah 11:6–9).



7

Venom

The Bible does not explain exactly how venoms first entered the world. But we know that snakes and other venomous animals will once again be safe, as they were in the original creation. God promises that a playing child can put his hand in a viper's den and not be bitten (Isaiah 11:8).



2 Conflict

In the beginning, no conflict troubled our world. Now animals hurt animals, animals hurt humans, and humans hurt each other. There is coming a day, however, when peace will return to the earth (see Isaiah 11:6 and Revelation 21:4).

3 Thorns

God gave Adam the privilege to work in His creation, "to tend and keep it," and this work was not a burden. After Adam's sin, however, God cursed the ground and caused thorns to grow. Now work is a great burden (Genesis 3:17–19).



5 Suffering

When Adam sinned, physical and emotional suffering began to trouble us. While God had originally blessed Adam and Eve in their marriage (Genesis 1:27–28), sin ruined their family relationships (Genesis 3:16).



Death

In the original creation, humans and animals would never die. Both were "living creatures" (Genesis 1:20–21, 24; 2:7) that originally ate only plants (Genesis 1:29–30). Death invaded God's "very good" creation, however, as a result of man's rebellion. Thankfully, God has promised to destroy this "enemy" (1 Corinthians 15:26).

