

**The Armor of God:  
Part #1 – Dealing With the Problem of Evil**

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***Matthew 12:33-37***

**Matthew 12:33-37** – <sup>33</sup>“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. <sup>34</sup>You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <sup>35</sup>The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. <sup>36</sup>I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, <sup>37</sup>for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

**Three Starting Points**

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**Point #1 – God is the Sovereign Creator**

**Point #2 – God is the Standard of Morality**

**Point #3 – God is the All Powerful Just Judge**

**Three Answers to the Problem of Evil**

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**Big Idea – Evil is Defeated Through Christ Alone**

**Answer #1 – Evil is Defined Only if Goodness is Affirmed and Defined in God**

Matthew 12:33-34

**Answer #2 – God is Omnipotent But Gives Man Free Will**

Matthew 12:35

**Answer #3 – God Will Triumph Over Evil in His Time**

Matthew 12:36-37

**Memory Verse**

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**2 Thessalonians 12:3** (ESV) – But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

**Going Deeper**

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You are called to consistently apply the divine principles and truths found in the Word of God. Take the next step in your study by (1) Discussing and applying the sermon with your small group, (2) Participating in a Sunday School class, or (3) Study through the “Going Deeper” study guide found at the Welcome Center.