

# COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM  
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM  
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM  
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



Vol. 53 No. 19

## *The Correspondent*

May 11, 2025

### The Fool Says... Part Two

-Renn Ferguson

“The fool says in his heart, ‘There is not God.’” Psalm 14:1, ESV

In last week's article we began to discuss arguments for God's existence. We focused on the incredible sophistication and complexity of DNA. This week we will look at the other side of the argument. Why do so many deny the existence of God even though there seems to be ample evidence of intelligent design? Different people will offer different answers and objections. Some are scientific others are philosophical. We will focus on one of the more common philosophical objections to God – suffering.

The argument is that if God truly exists and is all loving then there should be no suffering. Since there is suffering either God does not exist, or He is not loving. How can we answer this question? Why would a loving God allow suffering?

First, I would want to consider the fact that God created us as free moral agents. Throughout scripture we see this concept. Adam and Eve had a choice (Genesis 2-3). The people of Israel had a choice (Joshua 24:15). We all have a choice. Unfortunately, many people choose evil which often has a profoundly negative impact on those around them. God gives us the freedom of choice, but we must own up to the consequences of our choices.

Second, I would want to consider that at times, suffering serves as a reminder that this life is only part of our existence. Paul wrote in Romans 8:18, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” Often, suffering forces us to reckon with the idea that one day we will all leave this earth. No one knows when that day will be which is why we must live in constant preparation. (James 4:13-17)

Third, I would want to consider that God is able to use even some of the most terrible situations for good. This does not mitigate or negate the reality of the pain experienced by the one suffering.

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#### Connections



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[collinsville-troycoc.org](https://collinsville-troycoc.org)



**New Movers Baskets**  
**Delivery, Meet & Greet**  
**May 17, 10:00 to 12:00**  
**Then Lunch mmm, mmm**

## Behold, Your Mother

- Sacrifices- Exodus 2:1-3, Ruth 1:6-15, John 19:25, Luke 2:34-35
- Compassion- Isaiah 49:15, 66:13
- Hard work- Proverbs 31:10-31, 1 Timothy 5:14
- Faithfulness- 1 Samuel 1:19-28, 2:18-21, 2 Timothy 1:5, 1 Peter 3:1

The Fool Says... *from page 1*

It means that even in our darkest times God gives us hope that something good *can* come from it. Notice Romans 8:28, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Many will point to the issue of suffering to deny God's existence. However, I believe when we really understand God and the nature of this creation the argument falls short. There is a God, He is loving, and He will help you through all the sufferings of this life.

## Worship Service

### Announcements

Song: 888 Thank You, Lord

### Prayer

Song: 820 He Bore It All (Vs. 1, 3)

### Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 841 Sing and Be Happy (Vs. 1, 3)

Song: 321 If Jesus Goes with Me (Vs. 1, 3)

**Scripture Reading:** John 19:25-27

### Sermon

Song: 53 At Calvary (Vs. 1, 2, 4)

Song: 523 Our God, He Is Alive

### Prayer

## John 19:25-27

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | O | M | A | N | M | R | E | M | O | H | L | S | E |
| J | E | S | U | S | T | H | E | R | E | F | O | R | E |
| K | M | E | D | I | S | C | I | P | L | E | S | A | W |
| H | O | E | A | W | I | F | E | D | E | A | B | S | E |
| M | W | S | H | I | S | D | S | N | Y | C | I | R | G |
| M | N | O | O | E | H | A | E | T | S | O | M | E | N |
| A | H | O | U | R | E | L | P | V | O | S | U | W | F |
| R | N | E | H | T | A | D | O | O | O | O | I | R | D |
| Y | S | E | E | D | E | S | A | O | E | L | D | O | B |
| R | T | D | G | S | R | N | I | I | O | L | A | I | E |
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| C | R | O | S | S | R | S | T | A | O | E | H | E | L |
| I | G | N | I | D | N | A | T | S | S | N | R | H | D |

HIS  
SISTER  
BEHOLD  
YOUR  
LOVED  
WIFE  
THEREFORE  
TOOK  
DISCIPLE  
WOMAN  
OWN  
MARY  
SON  
STANDING  
THEN  
MAGDALENE  
CLEOPAS  
HOUR  
MOTHER  
JESUS  
CROSS  
SAW  
HOME  
STOOD

- <sup>25</sup> Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
- <sup>26</sup> When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!"
- <sup>27</sup> Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own *home*.

### Why Worship?

*But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23*