

A dramatic, dark sky with heavy, grey clouds. Several bright, jagged lightning bolts are visible, striking down from the clouds. The overall atmosphere is one of intense power and turbulence.

**WHERE IS GOD IN  
THE WHIRLWIND?**



# THE CREATOR

- **Scripture consistently credits God for the creation of all things (Genesis 1:1, Psalms 33:6, 148:5-6, 104:1-8). The Son, as co-equal with the Father in the Godhead, is also proclaimed Creator and Mastermind behind all that is seen and unseen (John 1:1ff, Col. 1:16-17, Rev. 4:11).**

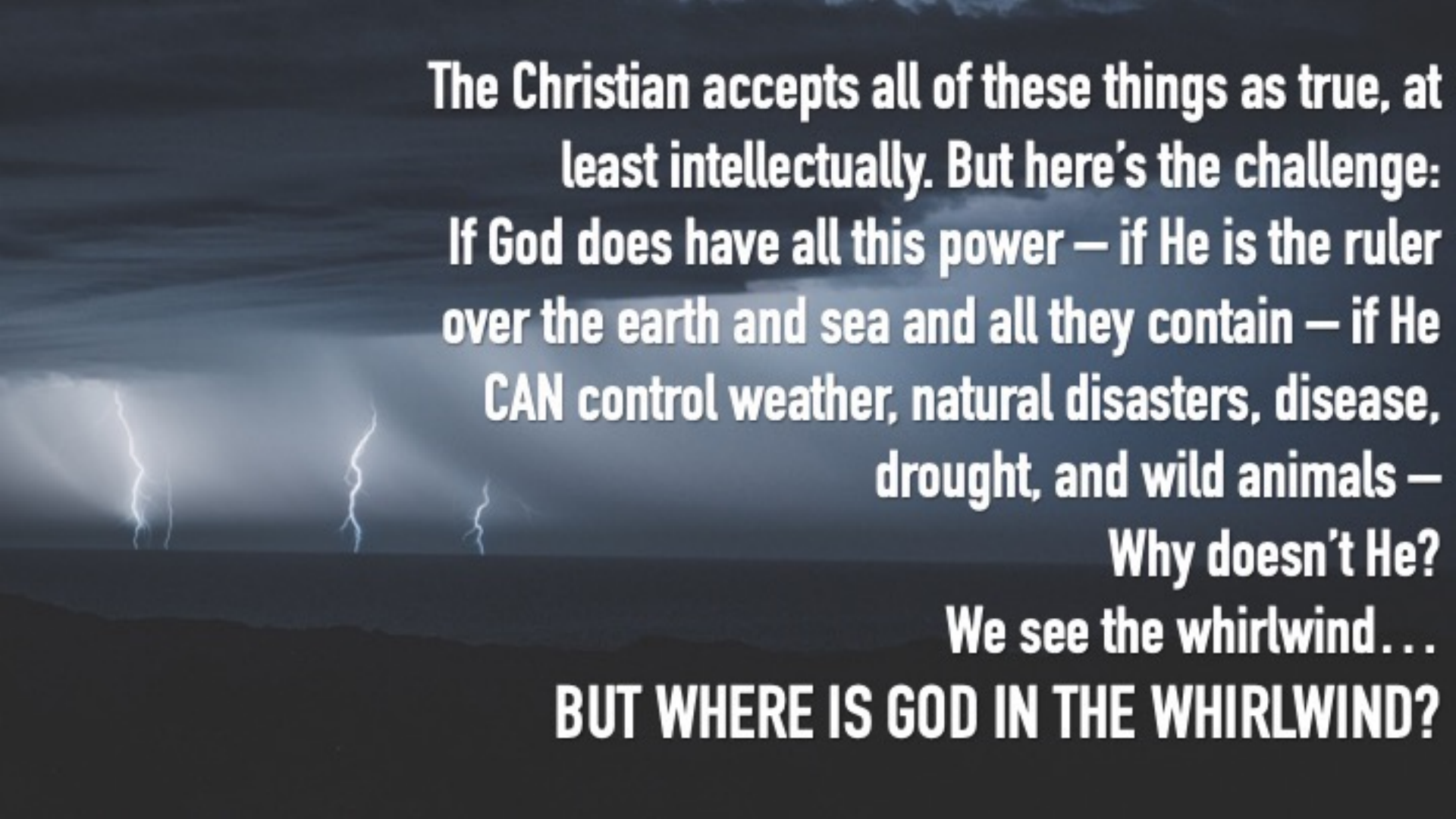


# THE CREATOR

- Scripture consistently credits God for the creation of all things (Genesis 1:1, Psalms 33:6, 148:5-6, 104:1-8). The Son, as co-equal with the Father in the Godhead, is also proclaimed Creator and Mastermind behind all that is seen and unseen (John 1:1ff, Col. 1:16-17, Rev. 4:11).
- By His unlimited power and wisdom, all things hold together and are under His command. God can hold the sun still and hurl hailstones (Joshua 10). Jesus can stop storms (Mark 4:35-41). Wildlife obeys God (the plagues, quail, etc.). And then there's the whirlwind from Job 38...

- **The foundations of the earth (38:4-7)**
- **Control of the sea (38:8-14)**
- **Control over light/darkness (38:12-15, 19-21)**
- **Ocean springs (38:16-18)**
- **Control of weather (38:25-30, 34-38)**
- **Stars (38:31-33)**
- **Complete knowledge of animals (38:39-39:30)**
- **Job is bluntly challenged in 40:1-14 to provide a rebuttal to God's preeminence.**





**The Christian accepts all of these things as true, at least intellectually. But here's the challenge: If God does have all this power – if He is the ruler over the earth and sea and all they contain – if He CAN control weather, natural disasters, disease, drought, and wild animals –**

**Why doesn't He?**

**We see the whirlwind...**

**BUT WHERE IS GOD IN THE WHIRLWIND?**

**“Although an omniscient, omnipotent,  
perfectly good God could be justified in  
allowing moral evil, such a God is never  
justified in creating a world in which  
natural evil occurs”**

***The Problem Of Natural Evil, Marston***



**To the contrary, Gene Edward Veith writes,  
“That kind of God does not exist. The image  
of a nice deity who looks benignly down  
from heaven, wanting us all just to have a  
good time, is wish-fulfillment, a fiction we  
might make up so we feel better”  
World Magazine, January 22, 2005**



# WHY SO MUCH SUFFERING?

- **Moral evil is a result of human action, whereas suffering from naturally occurring events (sometimes called “natural evil”) can only be blamed on God. Natural disasters and diseases seem at odds with a good and benevolent God.**



# WHY SO MUCH SUFFERING?

- Moral evil is a result of human action, whereas suffering from naturally occurring events (sometimes called “natural evil”) can only be blamed on God. Natural disasters and diseases seem at odds with a good and benevolent God.
- Try to remember, though, that God created this universe with inviolable natural laws that make our existence possible.

# WHY SO MUCH SUFFERING?

- **Moral evil is a result of human action, whereas suffering from naturally occurring events (sometimes called “natural evil”) can only be blamed on God. Natural disasters and diseases seem at odds with a good and benevolent God.**
- **Try to remember, though, that God created this universe with inviolable natural laws that make our existence possible.**
- **The main purpose of this life is preparatory. This is not the end or pinnacle of our existence. Even the Garden of Eden had its limitations!**



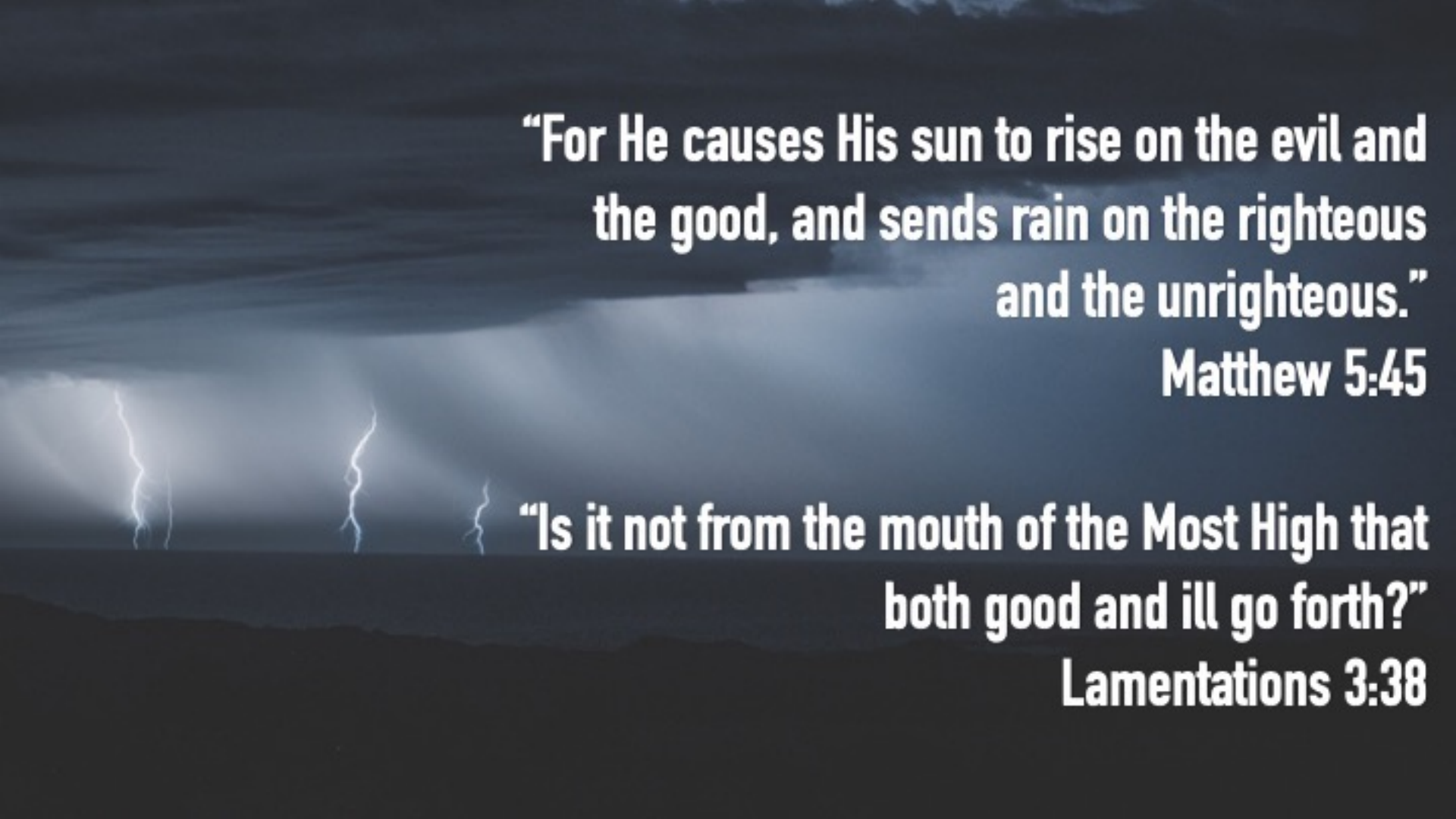
# GRAVITY

Nobody is above the law.

**“In a physical world where there is water for boating and swimming, some will drown. If there are mountains to climb, there must also be valleys into which one may fall. If there are cars to drive, collisions can also occur. It may be said that tornadoes, lightning, hurricanes, and other natural disasters are likewise by-products of a good physical world. For instance, the purpose of rain is not to flood or drown, but the result of rain may include these disasters. Likewise, hot and cold air are an essential and purposeful part of the physical world, but under certain conditions they may combine to form tornadoes”**

**The Roots Of Evil, Norman Geisler, p. 72.**





**“For He causes His sun to rise on the evil and  
the good, and sends rain on the righteous  
and the unrighteous.”  
Matthew 5:45**

**“Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that  
both good and ill go forth?”  
Lamentations 3:38**

# READING TOO MUCH INTO “ACTS OF GOD”

- God created the universe as well as the laws that govern it. Be careful that you don't blame God for disasters, as if He makes them happen on purpose in some targeted manner. He has that power, for sure, but we do not have any basis for assigning blame. Circumstances are not always a reflection of moral status (Psalm 73, Ecclesiastes 7:15, 8:14).

# READING TOO MUCH INTO “ACTS OF GOD”

- God created the universe as well as the laws that govern it. Be careful that you don't blame God for disasters, as if He makes them happen on purpose in some targeted manner. He has that power, for sure, but we do not have any basis for assigning blame. Circumstances are not always a reflection of moral status (Psalm 73, Ecclesiastes 7:15, 8:14).
- Romans 8:19-22, 2 Peter 3:10-11, Matthew 24:6-8, Luke 13:2-5 — Natural laws are inviolable and non-selective. Gravity works equally on all parties, regardless of moral status. Weather happens to both the righteous and unrighteous.

# READING TOO MUCH INTO “ACTS OF GOD”

- God created the universe as well as the laws that govern it. Be careful that you don't blame God for disasters, as if He makes them happen on purpose in some targeted manner. He has that power, for sure, but we do not have any basis for assigning blame. Circumstances are not always a reflection of moral status (Psalm 73, Ecclesiastes 7:15, 8:14).
- Romans 8:19-22, 2 Peter 3:10-11, Matthew 24:6-8, Luke 13:2-5 – Natural laws are inviolable and non-selective. Gravity works equally on all parties, regardless of moral status. Weather happens to both the righteous and unrighteous.
- So where does this leave us when it comes to prayer and providence?





# **GOD'S WILL IS DONE**

- Remember that God's will is always accomplished. In His unsearchable and immense wisdom, He creates access to our utmost good — not necessarily physical good, but always spiritual, eternal good.



# **GOD'S WILL IS DONE**

- **Remember that God's will is always accomplished. In His unsearchable and immense wisdom, He creates access to our utmost good – not necessarily physical good, but always spiritual, eternal good.**
- **Remember that much of the discomfort we experience has a general relation to sin (Gen. 3). Don't blame God for weeds!**



# **GOD'S WILL IS DONE**

- **Remember that God's will is always accomplished. In His unsearchable and immense wisdom, He creates access to our utmost good – not necessarily physical good, but always spiritual, eternal good.**
- **Remember that much of the discomfort we experience has a general relation to sin (Gen. 3). Don't blame God for weeds!**
- **When I pray, I should be less focused on the physical conditions (things that might be totally indiscriminate and unavoidable, like the weather, drought, disease, etc.). Am I praying for opportunities to serve others? Am I praying that souls will be saved? Am I praying that the church would rise to the occasion?**