

Where Does Evil Come From?

Taken from the play **The PIT: The Road To Salvation**

Scene:

The discourse has reached a fever pitch. Socrates, the moderator, is most pleased and actually wishes to further escalate things.

Gibran's speech on the true nature of good and evil causes an immediate and passionate response among many of the guests. Brace yourselves.

Socrates:[stands to speak to Gibran] This has been invigorating, to say the least. I sense in most, a thirst for more. Please continue. [sits]

Kahlil Gibran: [looking at Socrates] Understood. The answer to the next question I find rather difficult to reveal, for it can easily be misunderstood and used improperly, but since it goes to the very heart of this discourse, I see a duty in presenting it.

Question: What of the nature of good and evil?

Answer: *Of the good in you I can speak, but not of the evil.*

For what is evil but good tortured by its own hunger and thirst?

*Verily when good is hungry it seeks food even in dark caves, and when it thirsts,
It drinks even of dead waters.*

You are good when you are one with yourself.

Yet, when you are not one with yourself, you are not evil.

For a divided house is not a den of thieves, it is only a divided house.

*And a ship without rudder may wander aimlessly among the perilous isles,
Yet not sink to the bottom.*

You are good when you strive to give of yourself.

Yet, you are not evil when you seek gain for yourself.

*For when you strive for gain you are but a root that clings to the earth
And sucks at her breast.*

*Surely the fruit cannot say to the root " Be like me, ripe and full and ever
Giving of your abundance".*

For to the fruit giving is a need, as receiving is a need of the root.

You are good when you walk to your goal firmly and with bold steps.

Yet you are not evil when you go thither limping. Even those who limp go not backward.

But you who are strong and swift, see that you do not limp before the lame; Deeming it kindness.

You are good in countless ways, and you are not evil when you are not good;

You are only loitering and sluggard.

Pity that the stags cannot teach swiftness to the turtles.

For the truly good ask not the naked "Where is your garment?" nor the homeless "Where is your home?"

[sits to take a rest for a minute]

Adolph Hitler: [immediately jumps to his feet to speak] I told you! I am not evil, as many of you sorely want to believe. **I am the Fuhrer:** a true leader! I only seek gain for myself and the German people.

According to Gibran, that does not make me evil. You people have heard him for yourselves! I for one am glad he has spoken.[sits back down feeling triumphant]

Marquis de Sade: [also feeling vindicated, rises to speak] Gibran is right. I too am not evil. My lust is my nature and according to him, that does not make me evil. [sits]

Francois Duvalier: [feeling as good as Adolph and de Sade, rises to speak] At last an impartial guest! If you ask me, Gibran understands the nature of special and unique people and sees them for who they are. While most of you are quick to put the tag of evil on us great men of history, Gibran actually thinks it through. You folks should stop for one minute and be bold enough to admit that what he says is true! [sits]

Field Marshall Idi Amin: [also rises feeling victorious] I am on the side of these great men! It is the nature of small weaklings, as many of you obviously are, to see us as evil. I am not concerned, as that is a very small price for us great men to pay. [sits]

Socrates: [stands to speak faces Gibran] Gibran, whether it was your intention or not, you have invoked a passion like none before you. Without question, your answer to the question of good and evil has opened up an incredibly wide schism within this group. I admit that I did not see this coming. Do you wish at this time to respond? [Gibran shakes his head indicating no] Very well. Before we let you continue on to the next question, I think that there are more comments and cross-examinations to your answer concerning the issue of good and evil that needs to be heard. [now looking at the group] Who wants to be next?

Leonardo da Vinci: [energetically stands to speak] Gibran, I agree with the gentlemen just before me, as I too am glad you have spoken. In fact, I too like what you have just said. You began by saying that you cannot speak of the evil that is in us. You continued to describe common characteristics and behaviors in terms of good only and made a point that what we consider negative things do not, in and of themselves, make us evil. I also happen to agree with that. I have deduced then, that your answer to the question of good and evil, while deep and brilliant, places us right where we left off: **something major is missing in our analysis.** For to say that some of the characters here who proudly spoke of almost unimaginable acts of evil are not evil people would surely mean that there is no such thing as an evil person, or even worse, that people do not do evil things. I am certain that you do not mean to say that. What say you sir? [sits]

Kahlil Gibran: [stands and responds to Leonardo] Leonardo, you are right. I am not at all saying that men do not do evil things. Such a conclusion, in the face of everyday happenings, would be incredibly foolish. Keep in mind that I start with the good; for that is a giant clue. Your legendary intellectual abilities are a

wonder to see in action. I am certain that when we discover what has been missing in our analysis, and I am in complete agreement with you that something major **has** been missing, the delicious and wonderful fruit of this discourse will become apparent to all. [sits]

Leonardo : [remains seated responds to Gibran] Thank you, my good friend!

Dear Readers:

I must tell you, for me, this is great stuff! To my small mind, Gibran is correct. But the question remains, what does he mean?

Since it is universally recognized that there is no evil in GOD, (heaven forbid such stupidity!) the origin of evil is a question that has eluded man since time began.

In my most humble opinion, THE FALL OF LUCIFER WAS THE ORIGIN AND BEGINNING OF EVIL IN THIS WORLD! From a time line perspective of our species, Lucifer infected/injected Adam with his own bombastic PRIDE thus creating St. Augustine's concept of Original Sin **that is in each and every one us!**



My conclusion: If the true naked nature of our souls could somehow be shown to us when we look in the mirror, the question of where evil comes from would be rendered moot. It really makes no difference where it comes from because it is already in us all! This is both good news and bad news. The bad news is that we CANNOT remove it on our own; for none of us has any such power. The good news

is the **GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST!**