

What is Evil?

Evil a Lack of Good?

Many have learned in science class there is no such thing as cold, but rather the absence of heat.

Likewise, many philosophers assert that evil does not exist of itself, but is also rather the lack of goodness.

Hebrew Good

Original Word: טוב

Definition: Good, pleasant, agreeable, beneficial, beautiful, best, better, bountiful, cheerful, at ease, fair, favor, fine, glad, goodly, graciously, joyful, kindly, loving, merry, pleasant, precious, prosperity, ready, sweet, wealth, welfare, well-favored

From **towb**; good (as an adjective) in the widest sense; used likewise as a noun, both in the masculine and the feminine, the singular and the plural (good, a good or good thing, a good man or woman; the good, goods or good things, good men or women), also as an adverb (well) – beautiful, best, better, bountiful, cheerful, at ease, X fair (word), (be in) favour, fine, glad, good (deed, -lier, -liest, -ly, -ness, -s), graciously, joyful, kindly, kindness, liketh (best), loving, merry, X most, pleasant, + pleaseth, pleasure, precious, prosperity, ready, sweet, wealth, welfare, (be) well ((-favoured)).

Hebrew Bad or Evil

Original Word: רַע

Definition: Evil, bad, wicked, harmful, unpleasant

From ra'a'; bad or (as noun) evil (natural or moral) -- adversity, affliction, bad, calamity, + displeasure(-ure), distress, evil((- favouredness), man, thing), + exceedingly, X great, grief(-vous), harm, heavy, hurt(-ful), ill (favoured), + mark, mischief(-vous), misery, naught(-ty), noisome, + not please, sad(-ly), sore, sorrow, trouble, vex, wicked(-ly, -ness, one), worse(-st), wretchedness, wrong. (Incl. Feminine raaah; as adjective or noun.).

Hebrew Holy Set Apart for Yahweh's Purpose

Original Word: קִדְּשׁ

Definition: Holiness, sacredness, sanctuary

From qadash; a sacred place or thing; rarely abstract, sanctity -- consecrated (thing), dedicated (thing), hallowed (thing), holiness, (X most) holy (X day, portion, thing), saint, sanctuary.

Hebrew Profane

Original Word: חָלַל

Definition: To profane, defile, pollute, desecrate, begin

A primitive root (compare [chalah](#)); properly, to bore, i.e. (by implication) to wound, to dissolve; figuratively, to profane (a person, place or thing), to break (one's word), to begin (as if by an "opening wedge"); denom. (from [chaliyl](#)) to play (the flute) – begin (X men began), defile, X break, defile, X eat (as common things), X first, X gather the grape thereof, X take inheritance, pipe, player on instruments, pollute, (cast as) profane (self), prostitute, slay (slain), sorrow, stain, wound.

Scriptural Examples

The Death of Nadab and Abihu

Lev 10:1 Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and offered unauthorized fire before Yahweh, which he had not commanded them.

Lev 10:2 And fire came out from before Yahweh and consumed them, and they died before Yahweh.

Scriptural Examples

1Sa 13:11 Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines had mustered at Michmash,

1Sa 13:12 I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the favor of Yahweh.' So I forced myself, and offered the burnt offering."

1Sa 15:22 And Samuel said, "Has Yahweh as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of Yahweh? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.

Scriptural Examples

Est 4:15 Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai,

Est 4:16 “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.”