

Why Does God Allow Satan and His Minions to Exist?

1. God uses it to conform us more into the image of Jesus

Romans 8:28-29: *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son..."*

2 Corinthians 12:7-10: *"...in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."*

2. God uses it to accomplish His purposes and advance His Kingdom
3. God uses it to glorify His Name

Philippians 2:6-11: *"Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross! Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*

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Exercising Our Authority in Jesus

1. Jesus came to defeat the enemy.
(1 John 1:3-8, John 10:10, Col. 2:15, Matt. 8-9; 10:1,5-8, Luke 10:17-20)
2. God's desire, then and now, is that people be free of the "stuck places" of their lives – areas of sin, believing lies, things spoken over their lives, generational sin – and be forgiven, free to love and relate to Him and people, and to partner with Him in His purposes! To get there, you have to exercise authority!
3. Spiritual Weapons for Warfare
 - a. A Godly Life – Eph.4:27
 - b. The Armor of God – Eph.6:11-14
 - c. Intercession – Ez.22:30, Daniel 10
 - d. The Scriptures – Mt.4:1-11; Heb.4:12
 - e. The Name & Blood of Jesus – Phil.2:6-11; Rev.12:10-11
 - f. Unity in the Body of Christ – Eph.4:1-6
 - g. A Life Laid Down in Obedience to Jesus – Heb. 11:13-16; Rev.12:10-11
 - h. Thanksgiving, Praise & Worship – Ps.149:6-9; 2Chr.20; Is.61:3
 - i. Your Testimony – Rev.12:10-11
 - j. Preaching The Gospel – Lk.4:18-19; Acts 26:18

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