

# 苦难的奥秘

——评约翰·希克的造灵说

The Mystery of Evil: An Evaluation of John Hick's  
Soul-making Theodicy

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## [英文提要]

Many philosophers use the existence of evil as the major evidence against theism. However, many contemporary Christian theologians & philosophers construct different types of theodicy to solve the problem of evil. Among them, John Hick's soul-making theodicy is representative of these efforts: it tries to explain both moral evil & natural evil, and also promote positive values in face of suffering. In this essay, I would first delineate the major themes of soul-making theodicy. Then I would evaluate four common criticisms (e. g., is suffering really necessary? Is there excessive evil?) to see whether the soul-making theodicy can withstand critical scrutiny. Finally, I would briefly suggest how we can incorporate the insights of soul-making theodicy into a neo-Augustinian approach to evil.