**Subtitles for The Problem of Animal Pain Video – Victoria Campbell**

Anyone who has studied biology, ecology, or even watched National Geographic understands that when we watch these animals in nature we see often parasites, predation, and disease. And we wonder how could a benevolent God have created this world? And these are often the arguments that philosophers, scientists, atheists use to argue against such a good God. So, the question is, if theologians were to take science seriously, could a loving God still stand?

My name is Victoria Campbell and I hope you’ll join me with this Cambridge Element, The Problem of Animal Pain. In it, we’ll review the strongest arguments from atheists why pain in the natural world is evidence against the existence of a loving God. We’ll also look at the most commonly offered theological responses to this challenge, but then we’ll take the unique approach of looking at the scientific literature to ask several questions that are pertinent to this…

Is it true that pain is perceived equally across species or is there a difference among different types of animals?

For those that can perceive pain, is pain biologically necessary and what happens to those creatures that cannot feel it?

Also, are there natural pain-mitigating processes that we’ve overlooked in nature that would make a difference in this conversation?

We will conclude with a new theodicy of God’s Providential Care in the world. So I invite you to join me as we hunt with wolves, swim with killer whales, and walk through the aftermath of forest fires to look at it with fresh eyes and ask, if it may be true, that this world has minimized pain far more than we’ve realized.