

Why Would A Loving God Send Anyone To Hell?

What Kind Of Love Is This?

By B. D. Tate

Our Understanding Of God?

People are trusting that their understanding of God, as basic and/or ignorant as it is, will justify or protect, or in the end save them. They exclaim: *“Why would a loving God send anyone to hell?”*

If God is love and love is good, kind, patient, forgiving, longsuffering, accepting, tolerant, etc. then it doesn't make sense that He would punish anyone with eternal damnation. Love doesn't hurt, love doesn't condemn, love doesn't reject, love is unconditional, love is gracious, love wants us, love accepts us, and **most importantly love forgives!**

If Hell is a place of torment, eternal darkness, pain, weeping, gnashing of teeth, unrelenting sorrow, loneliness, condemnation, isolation, described as a lake of fire, what loving person, let alone a loving God, would send anyone there? Sure people do horrible things, and maybe they deserve some punishment, but an eternal doom?

Something Seems Out Of Balance

Something seems greatly over the top. There are many good people who do wrong things and they are going to hell? There are many people who love God, whatever God they choose to worship, who spend their entire lives serving that God, and they are going to hell? There are many people who may never hear the whole story and they are going to hell?

Whatever happened to matching the punishment to the crime?
Whatever happened to rehabilitating someone with punishment for

a while? Should someone spend eternity in hell because of not choosing Jesus Christ? What kind of love is this?

There Are Two Powerful Realities We Face In Our World

The first is **we are born not knowing this loving God**; the second is **death**. Two very important realities that should wake everyone up from their stupor and search to know the truth. These realities should motivate people to find out what is really going on.

If a loving God would not send someone to hell, why would that same loving God make us empty inside? Why would a loving God make us without knowing Him?

Why Is It That Everyone Is Born Not Knowing God?

We don't hear that question. People seem content to live their lives without God, but when it comes to death and the after life they are ready to condemn this loving God if He sends them to hell. "God would be unjust and unloving to do so!"

Death Is Another Major Event In Our World.

Death alone should be a wake up call. If God is love why are we all dying? That doesn't make sense either. Many people do ask: If God is love why is there so much suffering, death, dying, sickness, and disease? Why are there war, violence, hatred, fear, destruction, greed, pain, and loneliness?

So Here Are Four Major Questions About This Loving God:

- 1) Why would God send anyone to hell?
- 2) Why would God born anyone into this world without knowing Him?
- 3) Why would God allow death?

- 4) Why would God allow suffering, violence, sickness, and disease?

These are valid questions and everyone should be seeking to know the answers to them.

The answers to these questions are so important that God inspired His prophets to write down what happened to cause the world and us to be in this predicament. God had the scriptures (Holy Bible) written to reveal the answers.

Our Understanding Of Love

What if man's dominion meant that what is important in this life is in their hands? What if dominion means that we get to decide what is shared and what is not? **What if dominion means we can decide how something is shared?** What if dominion means we get to decide the meaning of love? In other words, we get to decide what truth is shared and how much. **We get to decide whether the love of God is actually revealed His way or ours.**

There Are Fundamental Issues About Love That Must Be Reviewed:

Does Love Lie?

Does Love Prevent Choice?

Does Love Keep Others Down, Ignorant, Or As Prisoners Making Them Puppets?

Does Love Give Only To Take It Back?

Does Love Force Its Will On Another?

Does Love Treat Others In A Way It Would Not Want To Be Treated?

What Kind Of Love Do We Really Believe In?

Who defines love in the first place? Do we define it by our experiences? Is there a true definition? The Bible provides one and

more importantly it displays the kind of love God is. Often our understanding of love is skewed by our self centeredness. Often our world actually rejects God's love and will. The Bible itself is often ridiculed, attacked, discounted, and criticized. The Bible has been persecuted, destroyed, banned, altered, and considered obsolete by evolutionary dogma.

The World's Kind Of Love

The world's love is relative and often "wishy-washy" and changes the rules to fit what is wanted. **Do we believe in the kind of love that the facts don't matter?** Do we believe in the kind of love that is so self-centered that what others are about, how they are treated, what kind of life they experience, doesn't matter? Is it, "The greatest love is love of self?" Do we believe in the kind of love that lives for the moment and is not responsible, or accountable for tomorrow?

Looking At Love Characteristics:

Does Love Lie? Some believe it is better to lie than to tell the truth at times. Some believe that avoiding grief or pain, issues, and stress, even if we have to lie, can be a loving thing to do.

Integrity and character are they important? God seeks truth in the inner most parts of our being, even if it hurts (Ps. 15:4). **God (love) will not lie, nor can He** (Tit. 1:2). We have practiced in our household that we would never lie to our children. We never told them that Santa Clause was real only to enlighten them later. We didn't always come forth with all the details when they were younger, but we endeavored to treat them like we'd want to be. We did this because that's what we believe love is. We believed that is exactly what God commanded us to do. What is the most common human failing? We lie.

Does Love Prevent Choice? Some parents love to manipulate their children. They pretend to give them choices while all the

while making it obvious which choice they are to make. Controlling other's choices in the market place is called a monopoly. Deceitfulness in dealing with others is manipulation. Taking away choices is oppression. Dominating the choices of others is called a dictatorship. All of these types of preventing choices we call wrong.

Providing true choices with integrity is God's kind of love. **God is truly the author of legitimate choice.** When choices are cut short, taken away, stolen from, it is because of the dominion of mankind. Life is unfair because God's will is not being done in the earth.

Does Love Keep Others Down, Ignorant, Or Like A Prisoner?

Some parents tell their children they are bad, stupid, idiots, and dumb. Then others live through their children making the children entertain them, tend to the parent's needs, manipulating, controlling, and intruding upon the children's lives. Some children never get to grow up because mommy won't let them. The children become the parent's prisoners emotionally, mentally, or otherwise.

We abhor slavery. We consider ignorance a curse. We fight legal actions against abuse or the oppression of the weak. Regardless, some have been born into servitude and at a disadvantage to say the least. No one wants to be a prisoner held captive by another.

One of the characteristics of love is treating others the way we would want to be treated. It is also known as the second great commandment: **Love your neighbor as yourself.** God is the source who is giving and protecting individual freedom. God's will is not being done here on earth as it is in heaven! Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty (II Cor. 3:17).

Does Love Give Only To Take Back? When someone gives you something and then takes it back it was never really given in the first place. It wasn't a true gift. Such giving is a lie, a deception, meant to only appear to be a gift. If I give my daughter a car and then take it back when I don't like the places she's going or who she's driving with, then I really never gave it to her.

Conditional giving of friendship, or relationships, is a common experience in our world. God gave us dominion of our world and our souls; he didn't take it back when we turned on Him. **Love is faithful and true to promises and commitments.** Love never fails and is trustworthy in word and deed.

Does Love Force Its Will On Another? There are certainly times when love must be tough, strong, determined, consistent, and true. Love doesn't force its will on another; however, love doesn't acquiesce when in authority either. The tension in these situations is obvious. For order to exist many must submit to authority. When self-willed beings rebel against authority and create chaos that is not love—that is terror. **Love therefore, will enforce, constrain, and arrest evil.**

We are to love by example and train our children to obey authority. We are to instill in our children self-control, not parent control.

Satan will force his will on us. Evil men will dictate. God will speak the truth and command obedience to bring order; however the choice to obey is ours. We must surrender to His will if we want to live in His kingdom. **His kingdom is a kingdom of love.** The kingdom of this world is fallen, sin cursed, and evil. We are given a choice to live in one or the other.

Does Love Treat Others In A Way We Would Not Want To Be Treated? Jesus said, "Love your neighbor as thy self." Most of us understand that the world's ills, problems, curses, sins, troubles all come from the fact that we do not treat others like we'd want to be treated. We violate love all the time.

Does a loving God want such violations to continue in His kingdom? Does a loving God want sickness, disease, violence, and war, evil, to continue in His kingdom? All of the sufferings of the world are physical manifestations of the sin condition within human beings. Sin nature is like a cancer to the human body. The

cells are multiplying and growing without order and out of control. If left unchecked it will kill.

Why Would A Loving God Send Anyone To Hell?

God will not lie to us. God will not take away our ultimate choice. God will not keep us in ignorance or as prisoners, or as puppets of His love. God will not give us life, control over our soul and then take it back when He doesn't like our direction. God will not force His ways or will upon us within His framework of life. God will not treat us in a way He would not want to be treated.

Yet, God has chosen to bring all of us into being. God created the world and the issues of life, put blessing and cursing in front of us and requires us to choose. Furthermore, He will bring it all to an end. He is the judge of all things. There is a heaven and there is a hell.

We Don't Get To Decide A Lot Of Things.

We also must choose His salvation plan in a whirl wind of opinions, deceptions, false religions, lies, and perversions. We don't choose when we are born, who our parents will be, how we grow up, what we look like, our talents, and many other things that go on around us politically, economically, and socially. **The major choice we do have is what are we going to decide about His Christ?**

*If we can grasp these fundamentals about love and if we can apply them, then we can understand that a God of integrity, love and character, truth, and holiness, **will send unrepentant**, disobedient, rebellious, willful, defiant, unloving, totally self centered, ungrateful, disrespectful, and arrogant sinners **to hell**.*

Hell is a place that Jesus said was created for the devil and his angels, not human beings (Matt. 25:41). God is not willing that anyone should perish, but sent his only son into the world to save

them (II Pet. 3:9); that whosoever believes in the Son of God, should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

Here Are Several Concluding Remarks:

The suffering, pain, beatings, scourging, crucifixion, of Christ occurred because of **the wrath of God's love towards evil, sin, and disobedience (Isa. 53:3)**. Have you ever been *righteously* angry towards someone's evil treatment of another?

The eternal life that God offers is about His will, His way, His kingdom. Anyone who chooses to come to God through Christ must realize that our will, our ways, and our ideas must be surrendered to His. This is a choice to live, **but it is also a choice to live under God's rule!** That is the choice God will not force on us. We must choose it; however, we are commanded to repent and turn towards Him.

Ac 17:30 "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but **now commands all men everywhere to repent,**

Finally, does God (love), who made us, who owns us, and who provided for us all of life; God's love that created our souls, our spirits, our bodies, have the right to claim us? Is it right and loving for God to hold us to account?

For People To Do Whatever They Want And Not Be Held Accountable Is Not The True Nature Of Love.

Does Love Want To Be Loved?

Is it loving to require and desire those who would chose Him, to do so out of respect, admiration, faith, hope, and love? From a human point of view we all want our love returned; however, with God there is much more. God doesn't need our love. God's nature of love is to give, bless, supply, and manifest His compassion for us so much that He wants us **to live in His love.**

Life is not about us returning His love. Life is about us learning and living **in His love for us**. When we reject Christ, who is the epitome of love manifest in human form; when we reject God's full expression of compassion, care, and out stretched love; we are separating ourselves **from the true source of life**. We are treating the very purpose of life as something common, something not worth our time (Heb. 10:29). This is the rejection that will cost us our eternal destiny in outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matt. 13:42).

This Is A Huge Life Issue

We are to choose His love even when things appear to not make sense. We are to choose His love even when life is unfair. We are to believe in Him and who He is even when things go wrong.

Is it loving to want those who come to Him, do so out of faith--A faith that God is love (Heb. 11:6)? That God is just? That God is righteous and true, despite what a lying world says about him, despite what lying devils propagate about him? Despite what humanity makes up about him?

God has gone to tremendous lengths to give us choice, to give us freedom, to give us a chance to choose Him, with legitimate choice; not coerced and not manipulated **by Him (II Pet.3:9)**. We are lied to, there is deception, there is coercion, there are evil manipulations, but they come **from this world**. In the midst of lies upon lies, in the midst of deceptions, do we believe His Word, His Son, His prophets, His Bible, and His Spirit? Do we hold onto Him, onto His Word, and we believe despite a world gone wrong?

Love is reaching out to those who are willing to come. Love is offering salvation by grace, a free gift to anyone who will surrender (Eph. 2:8). Love is rescuing those who are perishing.

Is it loving to let the world exist and let the world choose? Absolutely, and I bow down to such a loving, true, faithful, God.

I would bow down to a God who would risk rejection on my account.

I willfully, decidedly, believe, trust, and obey such a God as this. He has given me an unbelievable opportunity to choose for myself, and I do. I choose Him. I love Him in return *with the very love He has loved me*. I choose Him in return because He first loved me and offered Himself on my behalf (I John 4:19). Amen.

There is only God's kingdom and the world we've known is perishing (I John 2:17). God is not going to endure sin nature forever. There will be a new heaven and new earth and the old former ways will be remembered no more (Rev. 21:1 & 4). **The only place left is where God is not—Hell.**

Why Not Annihilate?

Why doesn't He just annihilate all who reject His Christ? Why allow those who rebel and refuse to repent to come under God's rule and reign exist? It seems the most merciful thing to do would be to completely remove all who do not want God's rule to cease to be. Why keep them in a place of outer darkness, torment, agony, where there is weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth? Why keep them conscious of their wickedness and love of darkness?

To every human being the answer to this question seems impossible to fully embrace. **When God gave us life and existence it was forever (Rev. 14:11)**. The issue isn't between life and non existence; it is between which places we'll spend forever in?

God will not let unsafe, unrepentant, unwilling beings to submit to the truth, to love, and to His authority, in His kingdom. God will not allow the suffering, pain, grief, sorrow, and terrible things that sinful people do, because of selfishness with His freedom, in His kingdom. Would you allow them? We've already seen what the world is like with sin in charge.