

WHY DID JESUS DIE FOR ME?

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God is a moral God. He has a standard of right and wrong, and He has communicated that standard to us in various ways. The Bible tells us about His moral standard, and we can sense it in God's creation. We can feel that some things are right and some things are wrong.

Psalm 97:6: The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.

Romans 3:20: Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Romans 2:14–15: For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.

God wants us to obey His standard, but He gave us free will so we could choose to obey Him voluntarily out of love, rather than mechanically like a robot.

Deuteronomy 30:19–20: I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both you and your seed may live: that you may love the LORD your God, and that you may obey his voice, and that you may cleave unto him: for he is your life, and the length of your days.

The problem is, though, that from the very beginning, humans have chosen to DISobey God. The very first man and woman chose to disobey, and since then, all other humans have too. Sadly, I have disobeyed God—and you have too.

Romans 5:12: Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

Romans 3:23: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

But there is another part of God's creation that also chose to disobey. God created the angels. Angels are powerful, energetic beings, that our human eyes usually cannot see. We cannot see their frequency of energy. God wants these angels to obey Him also, and He gave them free will to choose, similar to what He gave us.

The Bible tells us that the top angel rebelled against God and some of the other angels followed him. We call these angels "the devil" and the "demons." They chose to not do things God's way, so God made for them their own place to live someday— a very horrible place called the Lake of Fire. This all happened before the humans disobeyed. And it was this same top angel who later encouraged the humans to disobey.

Isaiah 14:12–15: How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how are you cut down to the ground, which did weaken the nations! For you have said in your heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet you shall be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Matthew 25:41: Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, you cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.

So, regarding us humans, the Bible tells us that there is life after death. After our body dies, our consciousness will live forever in one of two places—a very good place of God's blessing or that Lake of Fire with the disobedient angels. Humans are free to choose whether they want to be in God's good place of blessing or with the devil in the fire. And by our disobedience, we have made our choice.

The Bible says that there is a penalty for human disobedience. There is a price that has to be paid. The Bible teaches that it is only through the death of a perfect human sacrifice that the penalty can be paid. This is the only way that God will forgive us. But no regular human could offer himself or herself to die as this sacrifice, because no human is perfect.

James 1:15: Then when lust has conceived, it brings forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death.

Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hebrews 9:22: And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

To fix this problem, this is why God procreated a Son, Jesus, the God/man. Jesus lived a perfect life. He was the only One perfect Who could be this sacrifice.

2 Corinthians 5:21: For he has made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

1 Peter 1:19: ... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Jesus died to pay the penalty that each of us owe, and He did so as a gift to us. And now, we have the choice as to whether we will accept the gift. His death does not automatically apply to all. Individual free choice is still God's plan. We voluntarily choose to trust in Jesus.

Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:15: But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, has abounded unto many.

I remember the day when I trusted in Jesus and accepted this gift. Have you ever done that?

Do you want God's forgiveness? Do you want to be in the good place of God's blessing after you die? The way to get that is to look to Jesus and trust in Him and pray to God and ask God to forgive you—because of what Jesus did for you.

Romans 10:13: For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

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