

The Reason for God

Belief in an Age of Skepticism

"How Can A Loving God
Send Someone to Hell?"
Luke 16:19-31 (Pew Bible Page 741)

The only God that is believable to me is a God of love. I can not believe in a God that would send people to hell. How can the thought of a loving God, judgment and hell be reconciled?

CHOOSING SIN BEGINS A LIFE OF DISINTEGRATION

1. There are two characters in today's story
* Poor man: LAZARUS
* Rich man: _____
2. Sin can be defined as building your identity on ANYTHING OTHER THAN GOD
"You shall have no other Gods before me" Exodus 20:3

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart..." Matthew 22:37
3. One freely chooses an identity based on something other than God. What would you have God do?
Freely forgive, give them a second chance, let them start all over"

HE DID AT CALVARY

4. Here is the spiritual reality check: Who are you? On what do you base your identity?

CAN BELIEF IN HELL ACTUALLY GIVE YOU PEACE?

1. Some fear that a belief in hell will make you JUDGMENTAL
"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember...'" Luke 16:25
2. The reality is hell is CHOSEN not IMPOSED
3. Belief in a God of justice and judgment is NECESSARY FOR PEACE
4. "It is not fair that they do not know"
"...for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment"
Luke 16:28
5. The problem is they DO KNOW and will not BELIEVE
"Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'" Luke 16:29

What is wrong with the world? I AM

WHAT CAN CHANGE THE NATURE OF OUR HEARTS?

"They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them."

Luke 16:29

Isaiah 53 (Pew Bible Page 523)

What can change the nature of our heart? **THE LOVE OF GOD**

How much did God and Jesus love you?

Isaiah 53:8-9