

Palisades Community Bible Church

Online Bible Study

Why Doesn't God Love Me As I Am?

May 29, 2022

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To answer this question, we must first understand that it **assumes a LIE**. Let's address it truthfully...

This question actually reveals one of the greatest lies in all of humanity; "Why doesn't God love me as I am?" It is born out of the false teachings of both religious cults and anti-religious thinkers. The great lie is that God does not love sinners. It further suggests that "good works" earn favor with God. It sets you up for thinking that you aren't doing enough 'good' to merit God's love. Therefore, you must do "good works" to earn God's acceptance.

This lie spurs people to put their faith into 'doing good, or being good,' INSTEAD of trusting in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sin. The lie is that a bad person can "do good" and earn their way to heaven.

News Flash: The fact that you were born into this world ALREADY a sinner....even before your first sinful act....is NOT evidence that God doesn't love you. The fact that you are a sinner, headed for an eternity in hell, is **exactly** why God sent Jesus to save you! Jesus' death on the cross made a way for all sinners to be reconciled with God – to have their sins forgiven. That's the greatest act of love in all of history!

God does love you just as you are. God made a way for your sins to be forgiven. He loves you enough to forgive you of your sins. So, just as you are, God loves you. Just as you are, you cannot save yourself! Just as you are; you are a sinner in need of a savior. Just as you are, Jesus calls you to come to Him for what you need.

Do you know: You cannot do enough bad things to be condemned to hell? Adam and Eve sinned in the beginning, and that sin nature has been passed down through all generations. You were born a sinner. Your innermost being contained

the seeds of sin – which you did not choose! If you look at your outward behaviors (your works), you see the evidence of that sinful condition. Lying, cheating, stealing, disrespecting others, lust, envy, cursing God’s name, etc., are all outward signs of the internal problem of sin.

A murderer is not going to hell because of his deeds, but because he was born a sinner. A millionaire, who builds hospitals and helps orphans is not going to heaven because he is a good person. Without Jesus’ forgiveness, they are equal as sinners. They were equally born as sinners and their works don’t change it.

Did you know: you cannot do enough good things to earn a place in heaven? It was not your bad deeds that caused you to be born a sinner. Your good deeds cannot reverse that. What you do with your hands or your mouth are the outward signs of your sin condition.

If you have a cold, taking a bath cannot make the cold go away. You did not catch the cold by not bathing, therefore, bathing is not the solution.

The only solution for sin is forgiveness. Only Jesus, and what He did on the cross, can take away your sin. There is no sin so great that Jesus cannot forgive the one who comes to Him.

Example: If you go to the ticket counter at an airport and ask to fly to another city, the agent will ask for your ticket, right? You can tell them that you are a good person, that you volunteer, that you adopt homeless puppies, that you blah, blah, blah... That won’t get you on the plane, will it? Being “good” won’t get you a seat on the plane. The ticket agent may like you and appreciate that you are a great person, but you need a ticket. It’s the same with God; you cannot be ‘good enough’ on your own. The only way is to put your faith in Jesus to remove your sin. That’s the only way.

“But, why does God allow sin, evil people, wars, etc.?” That’s another question for another time. And, having the answer will not resolve your sin. The only solution for your sin is Jesus.

“Can I be a drug addict, a homosexual, a thief, a liar and still be saved?” YES!! That’s the point. Jesus was born for the sole purpose of forgiving your sin. All you must do is put your faith in God’s plan of salvation through His Son. That’s it.

“Don’t I have to be a good person to talk to God?” ABSOLUTELY NOT!! During His earthly ministry, Jesus went to sinners, he healed, he cleansed and he forgave sins. Jesus spent His time with those who needed forgiveness, and he taught his Disciples to do the same. He demonstrated His love for those who were lost in their sins and He saved them.

“What about religious people who keep on sinning?” Again, another question for another day. Concentrate on your own salvation, first. Remember, everyone is born a sinner. Put your faith in Jesus to take away your sins.

“Will I stop sinning once Jesus forgives me?” No. We are imperfect people living in an imperfect world. Once Jesus forgives your sin, God looks at you as a sinless person. He looks at you THROUGH Jesus’ sacrifice. If you are truly forgiven, you won’t look at sin the same way, but all people make mistakes. A person whose sins are forgiven may slip, but confessing and asking forgiveness is the solution.

Imagine that you robbed a bank and were caught and convicted. The judge condemns you to ten years in prison. Just then, a stranger walks up and tells the judge that he will serve your prison time for you. The judge imposes that sentence on the other fellow, and you walk out free. Will you want to return to robbing banks, or will your heart and behaviors change? Would you insult the guy serving your sentence by continuing in crime? No, you’d have an entirely different way of thinking. You’d look at your freedom through the eyes of the man serving your sentence!

So, here’s a really good question to ask at this point; “What must I do to be saved?” Read God’s own words on the matter:

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

“Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.” John 3: 18

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12

“Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.” Romans 10:9-10

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” John 3:16-17

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:8-10

For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Romans 10:13

God respects good works, but they will not remove your sin. He expects those who have been cleansed of sin to “sin no more.” God expects those who are forgiven of their sins to turn from sin. But, never forget that it is our outward behaviors that testify of what is inside. Our behaviors neither condemn us to hell, nor earn our salvation and heaven. It is putting our faith in Jesus that saves our soul from hell.

If you need help understanding how to receive Jesus’ forgiveness, talk with the one who shared this with you. Otherwise, you may pray this simple prayer and you will be saved:

“Jesus, I realize that I’m a sinner. I believe you are God’s Son, who died, and rose again, so that I can be forgiven. Please cleanse me of my sin and live in me. Thank you.”