

## UNIVERSALIST DEBATE

Having been invited via email to read L. Ray Smith's website, <http://bible-truths.com/> and Message Board Forum, <http://forums.bible-truths.com/>, I was intrigued by the overt heretical nature of Ray and his disciples. Among their several damnable heresies were denial of eternal punishment, ultimate salvation of all humans, even through the Lake of Fire as a gateway into Heaven, denial of the Deity of Christ and of the Trinitarian Godhead. I entered the fray during their discussion of the Luke 16 account of the rich man and Lazarus which required great perverting in order to justify their Unitarian/Socinian conclusions. In posting on their Message Board, I decided not to identify myself as I normally do. The purpose was to mitigate any bias against me had they known our website. Thus, I called myself **ELECTED**.

Rand Winburn

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### [iconbusters/elected:](#)

In the Luke 16 account of the rich man and Lazarus, Christ was elaborating several huge and disturbing truths which this Forum rejects:

- (1) Only Christ knows the state of the dead and where they reside. By this startling declaration He proves He is God, who knows all things.
- (2) There are two distinct states into which a soul enters upon death:
  - (a) blessedness; (b) misery.
- (3) Those in misery will not and cannot enter blessedness.
- (4) Those in blessedness will not and cannot enter misery.

(5) Man's state after death is fixed and cannot be altered. This proves there is no universal salvation whereby men receive a 'second chance' after death.

(6) The rich man knew this to be true, which is why He did not ask forgiveness and a 'second chance.' Rather, he asked his torment be reduced, if only for a few seconds.

(7) By asking for a miraculous intervention in the lives of his unbelieving family members, the rich man again proves the biblical truth that his family must repent and believe in their lifetime, before their death, at which time it will be too late.

(8) The state of misery is so intense that even a slight repose for a few seconds would be welcome.

(9) That no alleviation to the pain was forthcoming is proof that the Lord's anger will never be dissuade and turned aside from those in misery.

(10) We are not to make spiritual judgments according to the judgment of the world. In the days of Jesus, wealth was viewed as alleged proof of God's blessing. Today that same false view is held by the Word-Faith Movement, Roman Catholic Church and numerous other false ideologies.

(11) The sovereignty of God is taught in that all men's destinies on earth, as well as in eternity, are determined according to His good pleasure. We are not to question why the rich man was rich, or why the Lazarus was so ill that he could not work to supply himself even a meager living.

(12) Christ emphasizes to whomsoever much is given, much is required.

(13) Lazarus was placed in the path of the rich man by the will of God. Though he was reminded daily of his duty to share with those in need, the rich man's conscience became seared, his heart hardened, and his reprobation manifest. He will have no excuse when confronted on Judgment Day.

Another explanation of Luke 16 resides in the fact that many of those who have been entrusted with the Lord's riches ---- His Word -- ---which is the Bread of Life needed by all ---- are withholding the meaty portions from the sheep who are emaciated and starving, having been fed crumbs by these false stewards.

Though these stewards claim a divine calling, theological degrees and a huge support base, their destiny is not blessedness, but one of eternal misery. Though they are experiencing the 'good life' now in terms of income, popularity, fame and good health, such will not be the case forever.

For the blessing and saving grace of God tends to reside in the humble sinner, who knows of his horrible sin-sick condition, as did Lazarus know of his debilitating disease; his poverty of righteousness when standing before the Holy God, Jesus Christ, His Judge, as did Lazarus now of his extreme poverty and need.

Furthermore, history testifies that it is those who are despised by the world and false Christianity who are the true disciples of Christ, as was Christ despised and hated by the world.

Also, the rich man never accused God of injustice in his punishment. Nor does the rich man ask to be in paradise where holiness and love of God and truth reign, proving he resides in the best place for him, where he would rather be.

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[tim wrote:](#)

So Elected ,

What is the point of an eternity of "misery"? Does God do things just because He is God?.... that would not seem divine.

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[iconbusters/elected:](#)

Everything the Lord does has His glory as its end. Who are we to judge the Almighty, whose thoughts are not our thoughts and whose ways are not our ways? Can the clay say to the Potter, why have you made me thus?

Why do you not ask the reason for an eternity of blessedness? No man deserves such an end, for all have sinned and come short of His glory. No man seeks God, not one. So why are men admitted into the joy of the Lord?

We need realize that to ask the Lord to explain to our full satisfaction all that He does which is not to our liking, though He has plainly declared it to be so in Scripture, is to elevate ourselves to Godhood. We become the greater Gods by opposing the lesser God, rendering an adverse judgment against Him.

I quote Paul: "How unsearchable are his judgments and his ways past finding out!"

[Brandon wrote:](#) "God is just. He will do what is just. People are resigned to Hell because of the justice of God. God is loving, and out of love He allows his children to walk away."

If I may respectfully clarify Brandon's statement.....

Hell reflects a holy God's just punishment upon deserving sinners. God is love, but He is also just. God cannot deny Himself and wills to express Himself in the eyes of men. God's love is reflected in His Son, Jesus Christ, who took the punishment of many upon Himself, an innocent man, thus satisfying --- propitiating --- God's holy justice on behalf of many sinners.

By faith we trust in Christ's atonement on our behalf, acknowledging our sinfulness and need for the Savior. When we believe, the righteousness of Christ is imputed to our account. Once imputed, it cannot be lost.

God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit do not permit them to walk away and be lost who are beloved and chosen of the Father, given to the Son, for whom He died and rose again, all of whom the Holy Spirit regenerates. Christ loses none of His sheep. His salvation is infallible. It cannot fail to save.

Out of love, Christ saves everyone of His sheep to the uttermost. If He did not, His love would be empty words.....like the words of sinful men who boast and yet cannot fulfill their promises.

Not all are Christ's sheep. Not all are of His fold. Not all who name the name of Christ are His.....for He promises on that Great Last Day many will claim Him as Lord, yet He will deny them.

It is only those who are not Christ's, whom He does not love, who are permitted to walk away onto the path which leads to destruction. There is not one soul in Hell who is loved by God, nor is there one soul in Heaven who is hated by God.

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[iconbusters/elected:](#)

In reading the responses and commentaries by the Bible-Truths Message Board Forum, I am struck by their lack of understanding of fundamental biblical Christian doctrines. Perhaps rather than encourage them to read the fallible fictions of C. S. Lewis as Brandon has done, the forum should be directed to the infallible Word itself.

If I may respectfully remind the forum of a few of the great truths found in the account of the Garden:

- (1) Adam and Eve were tested as to their love for their Creator, the Lord God. Obedience proves love. Disobedience proves hatred.
- (2) They failed that test, proving their hatred.
- (3) They obeyed another master, Satan, who came in disguise as their beautiful friend. His deception included twisting God's Word to a perverse meaning.
- (4) The Garden provided the perfect opportunity for Satan to challenge the Lord for supremacy in His creation.
- (5) Satan won a temporary victory.
- (6) The Lord announced the ultimate victory would be His.
- (7) The Lord announced two seeds, lineages, generations or families who would be the offspring of two progenitors: the Woman and the Serpent.
- (8) Christ would be the Head of the Body of the Woman, representing the Church. A false Christ would be the head of the Body of the Serpent, representing the Antichrist and his false church.
- (9) The Lord decreed 'enmity' --- extreme animosity and hatred ---

between the two seeds.

(10) The Lord did not decree 'love' and 'reconciliation' between them.

(11) Instead, war was declared in the Garden.

(12) This war is seen throughout the Bible, even unto its culmination in the book of Revelation.

(13) The enemy of God and His Church has many apparent victories, hurting maiming and killing, but never completely extinguishing His Elect.

(14) His Elect, though few, have always remained long enough to give testimony to the truth throughout the Ages.

Ultimately, there are two generations or families living on planet Earth: the family of God and the family of Satan. God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have been and are continuing to call out those Elect who reside in Satan's family. The Lord is delivering His people from bondage to the world, the flesh and devil. He will not forsake nor lose one soul chosen before the foundation of the world for salvation and eternal life in Christ Jesus. He promises as much, and His promises cannot fail.

Furthermore, the Lord promises to cast Satan, his angels, and family into misery as punishment for their sins. He promises their misery will never cease. He promises their misery will be conscious, knowing exactly why they are being punished. He does not promise their ultimate salvation, forgiveness and happiness.

This forum rejects those great truths believed and taught by the Lord's Word and witnesses, hard as they may be to fully comprehend. Instead, this forum embraces the perversions taught by the enemy of the Lord. Their false doctrines must, by necessity, lead

them to believe they should love Satan, his angels, the Antichrist, false prophets and other deceivers because all will eventually be their brothers in Heaven.

The command to 'love our enemies' does not include sleeping with them or condoning their evil. Brandon is manifesting love for his enemies by patiently attempting to reason with them, explaining the error of their ways.

Teaching lies for truth is not a display of love of the true God, but rather a display of love for God's enemy, who is the father of lies.

The Good News resides in the fact that though the Lord is under no constraint to save even one human from his deserved death and punishment, He has, of His own free volition, chosen to take the punishment due a few upon Himself, thereby satisfying His requirement of justice, while at the same time displaying His unmerited grace in the Elect by saving them from the condemnation they justly deserve.

Apart from regeneration and the gifts of repentance, faith, belief in truth, etc., all of which are freely given the Elect, no man seeks Christ, let alone follows Him. The natural man, and false Christian, is at enmity with the Lord. That enmity will remain unless regenerated, given the Spirit. The Spirit is not given to all, but is like the wind, blowing upon whom He will.

The Lord does not will to give all the Spirit, for He declares, "I will have mercy upon whom I will have mercy, and compassion upon whom I will have compassion."

It was this very statement the Lord God made to Moses when passing before Him, revealing His glory. The sovereign election of



some to life and the sovereign passing by of others to death is a paramount aspect of God's glory which He has chosen to reveal to His Church in both the Old and New Testaments.

To vessels of mercy, the Lord wills to manifest His amazing saving grace, but to the vessels of wrath fitted for destruction the Lord wills to manifest His righteousness and holy justice.

As Paul so eloquently answered his detractors, "O man, who art thou that repliest against God?"

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[Sonia responds:](#)

I am not your enemy, but it appears you think you are mine. 😊 I once held similar beliefs to what you profess. I would have never believed I could be convinced to believe what I now understand to be true. It's incredible and humbling to have one's eyes opened by God, and to realise how completely deceived one has been.

See my sig line? I learned something.

In love,

Sonia

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If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know; but if anyone loves God, he is known by Him. --1 Cor 8.

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[iconbusters/elected responds to sonia:](#)

Scripture teaches that it was the woman, Eve, who was deceived. For that reason it is unlawful for women to teach or preach. I realize that biblical truth may irritate many of the women posting on this board, who would use the messageboard as a teaching

instrument.

I understand the sincerity of your beliefs, Sonia. However, sincerity is not a proof of truth. It is possible to be 'sincerely' wrong.

Generally speaking, when errors occur in one doctrine they typically spill over into other doctrines. Do you believe the doctrine of the Trinity and the Deity of Christ, who is the image and of the same substance and fullness as the Father? Do you believe in the substitutionary atonement of Christ on behalf of those given Him by the Father? Do you believe in Purgatory or a second method of cleansing sinners from sin? Do you believe in Original Sin? Do you believe in justification by faith alone in Christ's perfect, finished work?

If Christ is the truth, then those who deny the truth, deny Christ, who is the truth. To deny Christ is to embrace a lie. To embrace a lie is to embrace the father of lies, Satan. Those who do not receive Christ's disciples --- i.e., their teachings --- do not just reject the disciples, they reject both Christ and the Father.

To reject Christ and the Father is to hate Christ and the Father.

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bill responds:

You say this but did not quote ONE Scripture. You are not claiming to be the "infallible Word" are you as that is all you gave us to work with was your words. Maybe you could do me a favor. I have been wondering lately why people believe that we only have this age (This life) to believe in Christ. Can you find me that scripture that states that as fact? Why is not everyone chosen?

Thank you

Bill <><

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[iconbusters/elected responds to bill:](#)

I gave you the Garden of Eden to work with, Bill, not a fictitious novel which attempts to be wiser than the Word of God. Please re-read these short chapters in Genesis, for they contain doctrinal truths which are elaborated fully in the New Testament.

Bill then said: “Maybe you could do me a favor. I have been wondering lately why people believe that we only have this age (This life) to believe in Christ. Can you find me that scripture that states that as fact?”

The entire Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, speaks to the necessity of a living faith in Christ. A living faith is impossible when dead in sins. Lazarus had a living faith in Christ before he died. Christ then resurrected him from death and the grave as a token of that resurrection unto life which will occur on the Last Day. Those who die in their sins will not see life, but the wrath of God abideth upon them. The wrath of God is not the love of God. Saving grace is the response of a merciful God to those He loves. The wrath of God does not dispense saving grace. Instead, punishment is dispensed upon unbelievers, exactly to the measure deserved. As saving grace given the Elect does not diminish and cease, neither does punishment of deserving sinners diminish and cease. Both are eternal and perpetual. Both are divine attributes of God’s glory.

“For the hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth: they that have done good - \* believed in Christ alone for their salvation in their lifetime \* - unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil - \* not believed in Christ alone for their salvation in their lifetime \* - unto the resurrection of damnation.”

Heaven is not damnation; neither is damnation Heavenly bliss.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope --- \* i.e., a living faith \* --- by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

Finally, Bill asks: "Why is not everyone chosen?"

Why not ask, Why is ANYONE chosen?.....for the Lord is under no compulsion or necessity to save one person. Salvation is not deserved. Punishment is deserved. Furthermore, it is the revealed will of God to glorify Himself through an open display of His undeserved grace and mercy, as it is also His revealed will to glorify Himself through an open display of His deserved righteous wrath and punishment. The latter will be known in the future; the former is already known.

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[iconbusters/elected responds to brandon:](#)

Brandon wrote: "All we can do is speculate on the kind of place Hell will be, but all we really need to know is that it is a place: 1. Where God is not, and 2. Where we don't want to be. Hell is a place of utter destruction. And it is important to note that the "lake of fire" comes after the final judgment. It is the place that Satan and his angels are placed. This denotes the destruction of Satan and his servants. This simply means that Satan will be no more. The enemy is finally defeated in the destruction of fire."

Well said, Brandon. Angels are messengers. They are either bearing the truth of God or the lies of Satan. Preachers and teachers are also messengers who bear either the truth of God or the lies of Satan. Satan can transform himself into an 'Angel of Light' --- i.e., \*

Christ-like \* --- yet he will betray himself to those discerning Christians who 'test the spirits.'

Gehenna - i.e., 'Hell' - is the place where the Jews burned their garbage. By using this figure of speech in His Word, we are taught a somber and sober truth: The Lord views unbelievers as garbage to be burned, yet never to be completely extinguished and relieved of torment.....for their worm dieth not and the fire - i.e., \* torment \* - is not quenched.

Garbage is worthless, having once fulfilled its purpose, it is of no further value. Furthermore, garbage contaminates, stinks and attracts flies. Garbage is unclean as unbelievers are unclean.

The Jews did not 'recycle.' If they had, there might be an argument for a 'second chance.'

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[iconbusters/elected responds to laren:](#)

Laren wrote: "If Christ took the punishment for the elect, satisfying justice, wouldn't Jesus be in hell right now suffering eternally so we can have eternal life."

Excellent question, Laren. Here is the short answer:

Christ is both God and man. He was born sinless of a virgin by the power of the Holy Spirit. He lived a sinless life, obeying His Heavenly Father in every word, thought and deed. Having achieved a perfect life, He attained to the right to lay down His life on behalf of His friends. He was the sacrificial, spotless Lamb of God who takes away the sins of both Jews and Gentiles. The Passover was ordained to teach of His sinless atoning sacrifice which was to come.

The Word of God took upon Himself human flesh so that He

might die in the stead of men. God cannot die as He is eternal and Life. But the Man Christ Jesus could die, and He did. Had He Himself been a sinner, He could not have qualified to die in the stead of other sinners. Had He not been God, He could not have redeemed all the Elect throughout the history of the world ---- a number so great, no man can number them.

As a man, Jesus passed the test which Adam failed. As God, Jesus did not fail to fully satisfy the justice of God the Father, though He was on the cross approximately 6 hours, having been tortured previously.

As God, the value of Christ's sacrifice was infinite. However, the efficacy of His sacrifice was limited to that of the Elect, His sheep, His friends, in whose place He was punished. It is for those given Him by the Father for whom Christ died and for whom He is Mediator.

Laren also wrote: "It doesn't seem very just to me that he only had to spend a few days in hell in order to pay for the sin of the elect??"

We must be careful not to judge the Lord according to our standards. We are sinful, fallible creatures. The Lord is the holy, perfect Creator whose wisdom is infinite. Again, you must consider the God-man Jesus' sacrifice as unique. Also, you must consider the justice of God which did not require from Jesus one second more or less of punishment than the Elect deserved. Lastly, Christ did not suffer in Hell. His atonement was completed on the Cross. His cry, *It is finished*, means exactly that. No further punishment was required.

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iconbusters/elected responds to sorin:

Sorin wrote: "Christ died for the elect , ....so did Christ come into the world to save the elect, or to save the world ?"

Had Christ come into the world to save every individual without exception, He certainly could have done so. As God, there is nothing impossible for Him. As God, Christ's atonement was of sufficient worth to redeem every human every born.

However, in context, John 3:16-17, does not address every human being ever born. Instead, it addresses the fact that the Gospel and salvation of God is going out worldwide, to the Gentile nations. The Lord will save the world of men without *distinction*, not *every man without exception*.

This truth was shocking information to a Pharisee, who believed the Gentiles and Samaritans were lowly 'dogs', not worthy to touch. Jesus disclosed to Nicodemus that the Jews were not the only Chosen People. There were Chosen Gentiles also.

Paul explains in Romans 9 that it was never God's intent to save all Israel, for not all Israel were His Chosen. Instead, a remnant chosen by God for salvation believed on Christ and were saved.

In John 10, Jesus confronts the Pharisees and pointblank admits they are not His sheep --- i.e., \* elect \* --- but there are others outside the fold of Israel who are His sheep; who will hear His voice and follow Him.

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sorin responds to elected/iconbusters:

Elected , you are strongly deceived indeed . Well, "what about" those who never heard of Christ? Does God love them less than us?

No. "For thus God LOVES the world ..." (Jn. 3:16).

Does God only love sinners after they repent and believe in Christ as their Savior? No. "... While we are STILL sinners, Christ died for our sakes." (Rom. 5:8).

Is God just "partial" toward saving some while condemning the rest? No. "For there is no partiality with God ..." (Rom. 2:11). "For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the Waters cover the sea" (Habakkuk 2:14). Above info is taken from L. Ray Smith's site , <http://bible-truths.com/> Seeker of truth, Sorin

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[iconbusters/elected responds to sorin:](#)

Sorin wrote: "Elected , you are strongly deceived indeed."

[iconbusters/elected:](#) Am I your enemy because I tell you the truth?  
(Gal. 4:16)

Sorin: "Well, "what about" those who never heard of Christ?"

[iconbusters/elected:](#) They died in their sins, God-haters. Paul's brilliant treatise to the Romans concerning justification by grace alone through faith alone begins with an explanation of how men historically denied the existence of the true God though He has been manifested to them. They prefer instead to invent false gods from their vain and darkened imaginations. Sadly, this is still occurring in our day.....even amongst those who post on this messageboard.

Sorin: "Does God love them less than us? No. ("For thus God LOVES



the world ..." Jn. 3:16)."

[iconbusters/elected](#): I have explained John 3:16 in the post above.

Please read.

The Lord states clearly that He hates men.

(1) *Jacob have I loved, Esau have I hated.*

(2) *Thou hatest all workers of iniquity.*

(3) *I have hated the congregation of evildoers.*

Was the flood God's love in action?

Was the destruction of the Temple God's love in action?

Was the suicide of Judas God's love in action?

Is the Lake of Fire or Hell God's love in action?

Please name one verse which has Christ speaking to the throngs, walking through the streets, or teaching in the Temple, the following: *'God loves you, one and all, and has only your best interests at heart.'*

Sorin: "Is God just "partial" toward saving some while condemning the rest? No. ("For there is no partiality with God ..." Rom. 2:11)."

[iconbusters/elected](#): Does the Lord show favor to some and not to others? Yes. Grace is the unmerited favor shown to undeserving sinners according to the sovereign will of God contingent on nothing in the sinner. Thus, Scripture and experience teach that the Lord bestows merciful saving grace on some and not all.....for all do not

believe nor do all love God.

Is God unjust in showing favor to some and not all? Saving grace is not deserved. It is not unjust to give to some unmerited favor they did not deserve while not giving others what they did not deserve. This grand truth is taught in the Matt. 20 parable of the vineyard workers. "Is it not lawful of me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil because I am good? So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen."

Sorin: "For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the Waters cover the sea" (Habakkuk 214)."

[iconbusters/elected](#): This is a prophecy which speaks to the future Last Day when Christ returns to earth in flaming fire of judgment, signaling the end of this Age as we know it, ushering in Christ's reign on earth with His people.

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[tim wrote](#):

Hello elected,

Satan is God's tool. You are fooled into this belief of an eternal hell for a reason. The only people you will win to your beliefs are the one's God has chosen for a reason to believe in eternal hell.

Christ is as much the saviour of my atheist brothers and sisters as He is yours and mine.

Do you feel the love of God? There is enough for all and all will one day be welcomed home to their father with open arms.

All will be just fine!

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[iconbusters/elected responds to tim:](#)

Atheists believe there is no God. They are in unbelief as to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. They are in unbelief as to their sin, their condemnation, and swift coming judgment. As Savior, Christ saves sinners from their unbelief, which is sin, as well as the other multitudes of carnal sins possible. To the Elect, the gifts of saving grace, regeneration, repentance for sins, faith in Christ, sanctification, love of holiness, belief in the truth, perseverance in the faith, etc. are all freely and effectually bestowed upon the undeserving.

Christians are commanded to discern true Christians from false. True Christians, the Body of Christ, are discerned by their good fruit. False Christians are discerned by their corrupt, rotten fruit.

The fruit of Atheists are not the fruit of God's beloved.

God haters are not our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Satan is not your brother in Christ.

The Antichrist and his false prophets are not your brothers in Christ. We are commanded to love the brethren, but we are not to have fellowship with works of darkness or the workers of iniquity.

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[iconbusters/elected responds to bill:](#)

Bill wrote: "OK Elected, I can do that for you. Please tell me what chapters to read and what is that you want me to look for? Eternal damnation? Chapter, verse that explains this would be nice. "

How about Genesis, chapters 1-4. After reading those chapters I have the following questions to help you through this study:

- (1) Can you discover the Gospel in chapter one? Please reiterate.
- (2) Can you identify the Trinity in chapter one? Please reiterate.
- (3) Why did the Lord create man last and not first?
- (4) Why did the Lord create man in the first place?
- (5) Did the Lord create man a god?
- (6) Why did the Lord rest on the seventh day? Can the Lord become tired? What significance does 'rest' hold, if any?
- (7) Is the Law of Saturday rest still in effect? If so, why? If not, why not?
- (8) When the Lord breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life, whereby man became a living soul, does the soul of man die upon the death of his body, or is the soul eternal, continuing to exist?
- (9) Why was the tree of knowledge of good and evil called 'good,' if it was both good and evil? (see Gen. 1:31).
- (10) What is a help meet?
- (11) Why did Adam name the animals, birds, etc.?
- (12) Why did the Lord create the woman from Adam's rib? Why not create her from the dust, as He did with Adam?
- (13) Must a man's help meet always be a woman? Can it not also be another man?
- (14) Why were they both naked and not ashamed?
- (15) Why did the Lord not warn them beforehand of the Serpent?
- (16) What was the purpose behind prohibiting eating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil?

(17) Wouldn't it have been wiser to have eliminated that tree from the Garden in the first place, thereby eliminating any possibility of temptation?

(18) Why did Satan inhabit the serpent?

(19) Why did Satan choose the woman as the one to tempt?

(20) Why did Adam eat the fruit? He was not the one deceived. Why did he wish to die?

(21) Why did not Adam or Eve pray to God for guidance before eating from the tree?

(22) Why did they not pray to God for mercy after eating from the tree?

(23) Why did they run from the Lord?

(24) Why did the Lord call after them? Is He not omniscient, knowing where they are every moment?

(25) What did Adam and Eve fear?

(26) If God is a spirit, how can a spirit be heard walking?

(27) Why did the Lord ask Eve what she had done? Is He not all-knowing?

(28) Why was the serpent cursed? Satan used him. Was it his fault? Is the curse still in effect today?

(29) Why was the woman's punishment pain in childbirth?

(30) Adam hearkened to the voice of his wife. Why is that evil?

(31) How is cursing the ground a punishment for Adam?

(32) If Adam had not eaten from the tree, would he have died and returned to dust?

(33) Is the Gospel also in Genesis 3? Please reiterate.

(34) Why did the Lord not place 'love', 'peace', and 'forgiveness'

between the two seeds?

(35) Which seed would you prefer to have as ancestor ---- the seed of the Woman, or the seed of the Serpent? Why?

(36) Eve is the mother of all living? What does that signify, if anything?

(37) Why did Adam and Eve find it necessary to cover themselves with fig leaves?

(38) Why did the Lord command them to take them off and put on coats of skins?

(39) What animal skin did they wear?

(40) Why did the Lord clothe them? Can't they clothe themselves?

(41) Why drive them out of the Garden? Why not allow them to eat from the tree of life?

(42) What is the purpose of the tree of life? Did not God breathe into them a living soul?

(43) Adam knew Eve.....of course, he did. But what has this to do with conceiving a child?

(44) Abel was a keeper of sheep and Cain a tiller of the ground? Why should we care?

(45) Why did they bring offerings to the Lord? Is the Lord in need of food?

(46) Why did the Lord not respect Cain's offering? After all, it's the thought that counts, isn't it?

(47) What in heavens does Gen. 4:7 mean?

(48) Why did Cain kill Abel? Is there a lesson to be learned from it?

(49) Why was Cain not forthcoming when asked the whereabouts of Abel?

(50) What are the prophetic types in these chapters? Are they important to know?

BONUS QUESTION:

Gen. 5:3.....Seth was born in the image and likeness of Adam. What does this signify, if anything?

Bill, when you have done your homework, please get back to me. Until then, you will have no further response from me on any biblical issue. Before you can eat meat you need to grow teeth.

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[iconbusters/elected responds to tim:](#)

Tim wrote: "As you clearly, by your name, believe you are an elect,"

Thus far you are proving yourself to be a genius. *"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God that ye may KNOW that ye HAVE eternal life....."*

Tim: "I suppose you think God picked all He wants....."

Yes. He says so.

*"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you....."*

*"According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world.....In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will."*

*"The Lord knoweth them that are His."*

*"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."*

Tim: "and then completely discards the rest..."

Yes. He simply passes them by allowing them to fulfill their evil desires, earning their reward of eternal death and perdition..... *"For the wages --- \* reward for your work \* ---- of sin is death."* The Lord has even been known to harden hearts, sending them strong delusion that they would believe the lie and perish in unbelief, (II Thess. 2:11-12).

When the vessels fitted unto destruction hear the Gospel they fulfill the parable of the soils, the first three of which symbolize the unbelievers and carnal, false Christians.

God's call out of darkness into His glorious light is heard and obeyed only by those given ears to hear, who have been given new hearts and a new will to respond positively.

Tim: "and since you are the "lucky" one this poses no problem to you."

It is not the duty of the Christian to call His Lord to the Judgment Seat, as you are doing. *"For true and righteous are His judgments; for He hath judged the great whore which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of His servants at her hand."*



Tim: "Have you ever talked with groups of atheists to know if they hate God? Clearly you have not. I have. They don't hate God, they just don't think God exists...."

Paul in Romans 1 refutes your view. He clearly states that despite knowledge of God's existence, they purposefully deny Him. To deny the Lord is not a manifestation of love. Neither is it fence-straddling as agnostics attempt. It is outright hatred, preferring to block Him out of their mind and life.

Tim: "and you know why most of them think God does not exist. Because of people just like you with your higher than though hell and damnation."

Their anger is not directed at me, for I am only the messenger bearing God's Word. It is God's Word which they hate. For it is impossible to hate God without hating His Word.

Tim: "If I had to chose to believe in a God who hated most of His creation so much that He would condemn the majority to eternal misery and no God at all, I would just pick no God and take my chances."

The Lord condemns no one who loves Him, who picks up his cross to follow Him. Those whom the Lord condemns hate Him, choosing to ignore Him or deny His existence altogether. Separation from the true

God is truly their heart's desire. Hell/Lake of Fire is just that.....eternal separation from the Lord.

You are taking no chances in denying the Lord. You are sealing your own fate, for which you have only yourself to blame.

Tim: "There is NO love in the doctrine of eternal Hell..."

You are correct. Hell is not about love. Heaven is about love. Christ is about love. Salvation through Christ alone is about love. Eternal life is about love. Forgiveness of sins is about love. Christ's substitutionary atonement is about love. In fact, no greater love has ever been displayed.

Rejection of God's love is nothing less than hatred toward God. The reward for God-haters, who are Christ-rejecters, is eternal misery, separation from Him forever.

Tim: "...anyone who parades around as you with 'hell is good' is just plain sick."

It is not a good thing to be consigned to Hell. However, it is good that God judges and does it in absolute righteousness. He has declared it His will to manifest His righteous judgment to the world. He will not deny Himself as Judge. Because we have not yet seen it, why do you and others insist on accusing God of injustice and unrighteousness when the event called the White Throne Judgment has yet to come to

pass??

Tim: "What are you doing wasting your precious time here on this site, you need to get out there and save those poor pathetic atheists from that torment that will never end. Are you not commanded by your very beliefs to spread the word to unbelievers, so go and get to it."

But, Tim, there are unbelievers who post and read this messageboard.

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