

Why Did God Create Us If He Knew We Would Sin?

(appropriate for Mid Schoolers and older)

Michael R. Daily, August 2011

Imagine that you are the only person in the world. There are no people and no animals in the world, just you.

But you can make anything you want appear just by imagining it. If you want a pizza, poof, it just appears. If you want a particular car to drive, poof, there you go. You can have anything you want but no people and no animals.

What would life be like?

First, lets write down all the good stuff about having no other people around.

On the left side of the board: What would be good about having no other people on Earth ?

No stealing	no crime	no one bossing you around
no getting cussed out	no traffic	no getting beat up
world peace	no hunger	no school
no work	no pressure	no humiliation
no gossip	no disagreements	no losing
no hurt feelings		

On the right side of the board: What would be bad about having no other people around ?

No friends	no one to talk to	loneliness
Depression	no love	no one to attend your funeral
no encouragement	no team sports	

So, which would be better, having people around or not having people around?

How many say no people would be better? How many say having people around would be better?

(most, if not all, will say having people around is better).

I can't believe what I'm hearing you say. You are telling me that the stuff on the right side of the board is so valuable to you that you would be willing to get beat up to have it. Is that right?

You're telling me that the stuff on the right means so much to you that you would be willing to sacrifice world peace for it. That is what you are saying isn't it?

You would rather put up with school, work, pressure, people humiliating you and embarrassing you, gossiping about you, people going hungry – rather than lose what is on the right side of the board.

As horrible as the stuff on the left is, the stuff on the right is worth more.

That is what you are saying.

Now let's change things up. Let's talk about Adam and Eve.

Did God know that Adam and Eve would sin before He made them? Yes.

Did God know what the consequences of their sin would be before He made them? Yes.

Let's write down what some of the consequences of their sin was:

- 1) All of mankind inherited a sinful nature – every person born enters life with a natural desire for sin.

Job 15:14-16

**“What is man, that he should be pure, Or he who is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?
15 “Behold, He puts no trust in His holy ones, And the heavens are not pure in His sight; 16 How much less one who is detestable and corrupt, Man, who drinks iniquity like water!**

- 2) Death for all people

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

- 3) The original beauty of creation was ruined resulting in pain and misery for people, animals, and plants.

Romans 8:18-25

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, ⁱⁿ hope 21 that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. 23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. 24 For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he *already* sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

- 4) Billions of people would end up spending eternity in the Lake of Fire (Hell)

Matthew 7:13-14

“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. 14 For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

- 5) God Himself would have to become a man and be tortured to death on the cross

Hebrews 2:9-10

But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, *namely*, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. 10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

- 6) Work would be hard, childbearing would be painful, human relationships would be challenged with conflict.

Genesis 3

If God knew that all of this would result from making Adam and Eve why did He do it?

There is only one reason why God would have gone ahead and made Adam and Eve.

What is that one thing?

Because as horrible as all of these results of sin are, there was something else that would also result that was so valuable to God that it outweighed all of these horrible things.

What is it? Its you!

God's desire was to create a group of people that would spend eternity with Him. But these would not be just any people. These people would be special.

I Peter 2:9-10

But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

These would be people who chose to love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Mark 12:28-31

²⁸ One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well, asked Him, "What commandment is the foremost of all?" ²⁹ Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; ³⁰ AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.' ³¹ The second is this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

People who would make this choice against the constant resistance of their own flesh,

Romans 7:14-19

¹⁴ For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. ¹⁵ For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I *would* like to *do*, but I am doing the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ But if I do the very thing I do not want *to do*, I agree with the Law, *confessing* that the Law is good. ¹⁷ So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good *is* not. ¹⁹ For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.

the oppression of a hostile world,

John 15:18-21

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. ¹⁹ If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember what I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. ²¹ They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me.

and the attempted deceptions of the most powerful angelic being to ever exist.

I Peter 5:8-10

⁸ Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ But resist him, firm in *your* faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. ¹⁰ After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you.

These would be people who would rather believe what God says than believe their own eyes,

II Corinthians 5:7

⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight—

People who would sacrifice the treasures of the only world they had ever known for the treasures of an eternal world they had never seen.

Hebrews 11:24-26

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. ²⁵ He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

Matthew 6:19

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

These would be people who had come through the refining furnace of testing and emerged a “mature man”.

James 1:2-4

² Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have *its* perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, ⁷ so that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ⁸ and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

Romans 5:3-5

³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; ⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Nothing is of more value to God than this.

In Ephesians 1 God calls these people “His inheritance”.

Ephesians 1:18-23

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. *These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might ²⁰ which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

If someone told you that in the future you were going to receive a very valuable inheritance how would you react?

Would you say, “O gee, an inheritance – sounds like a lot of trouble”

or would you say, “Wow, I can’t wait to get my inheritance – its going to change my life for the better!”

God is looking forward to His inheritance – its spending eternity having a relationship with you.

That is so valuable to Him that it outweighs all the horrible, unimaginably high, costs of sin.

That is why He went ahead and made Adam and Eve.

Deuteronomy 26:18-19

The LORD has today declared you to be His people, a treasured possession, as He promised you, and that you should keep all His commandments; ¹⁹ and that He will set you high above all nations which He has made, for praise, fame, and honor; and that you shall be a consecrated people to the LORD your God, as He has spoken.”

Psalm 28:7-9

The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart exults, And with my song I shall thank Him. ⁸ The LORD is their strength, And He is a saving defense to His anointed. ⁹ Save Your people and bless Your inheritance; Be their shepherd also, and carry them forever.

Psalm 33:12

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, The people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.

Psalm 94:14

For the LORD will not abandon His people, Nor will He forsake His inheritance.

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Why Did God Create Us Even When He Knew We Would Sin?*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Job 15:14-16, Romans 5:12*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Peter 2:9-10, Deuteronomy 26:18-19*

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