

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

DOES GOD REALLY CARE?

RLJ-1345

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JUNE 3, 2012

As my wife and I have been going through the darkest time in our lives there were moments when it felt like God was not there. I found myself asking the following soul searching questions:

- ❖ Does God really care about the pain we are suffering right now?
- ❖ How much is He involved in life on earth?

I didn't get an immediate answer but God later showed me in the spirit how much He cares about the creation and how involved he truly is. This is the statement that the Holy Spirit gave me:

When God decided to start His creation, He knew that He had to be part of it in order to produce beings that would come to Him of their own free will.

God does not respond to things as they happen. As human beings we cannot see into the future, nor can we control events around us, and have to respond to things as they happen. We can plan things out, but our plans are not always fulfilled. **James 4:13-15**

God is eternal with no beginning or end. He is omnipotent (unlimited power), omniscient (infinite knowledge), and omnipresent (present in all places at the same time). God is not limited to time and can see the past, present and the future at the same time. **Isaiah 45:21-23; 46:9-11**

The Book of Life was written before the creation began because Jesus was going to die for all people. All human beings from Adam and Eve to the last person to be born on the earth are listed in the book of life. **John 3:16-21**

Moses had this knowledge and understood that the people who did not respond to the atonement from God would be blotted out from the Book of Life. **Exodus 32:32**

Every person on this earth who dies without putting their trust in Jesus Christ will be blotted out from the Book of Life. **Revelation 3:5**

DOES GOD HAVE A PLAN?

If we piece together the information given in the Bible, we can see God's plan:

1. God wanted a perfect creation with beings that by their own free will would make the decision to love God and serve him. There had to be two creations to fulfill this goal:
 - a. First, there needed to be a creation in which all created beings were tested.



- b. Secondly, there needed to be a subsequent creation to which only those who passed the initial test would be allowed to enter. **Revelation 21:1-8**
2. The first group of beings created were the angels. They were created sinless and holy, but also possessed a free will. Lucifer was the first angel to exercise his free will to rebel against God and convinced one third of the angels to join his rebellion. **Revelation 12:3-4; 7-12**
3. There was no atonement for the angels which rebelled; they were sentenced to the Lake of Fire where they will serve out their sentence for all eternity. **Matthew 25:41**
4. Lucifer appealed the sentence and accused God of not being just and righteous. **Romans 3:23-26**
5. As a result, God temporarily suspended the sentence and created mankind to show His righteousness. Man was created in the image of God but with less power than the angels had been given. **Genesis 1:26-27; Hebrews 2:5-18**
6. God gave permission for Lucifer to tempt mankind and set the Tree of Knowledge in the Garden as the object for temptation. Lucifer used deception to deceive Eve; she rebelled against God, and then made sure that her husband also rebelled. **Genesis 3:1-7**
7. God knew that Lucifer would rebel and that Adam and Eve would fail the test in the Garden of Eden. God is a holy and cannot tolerate rebellion, accordingly God's character demanded that the sin of rebellion be judged and someone pay for it. **Hebrew 10:26-31**
8. God is light and no sinful creature can exist in His presence. **1 John 1:5-10**
9. An atonement was needed and this is when God decided that only He could make that atonement so He put the judgment on Himself. **2 Corinthians 5:18-19**
10. It is here that we find Jesus the Son, the Lamb of God, was slain in the mind of God before He ever began the creation. **Revelation 13:8**

This was the mystery that Lucifer and his fallen angels did not understand. **1 Corinthians 2:6-8**

SUMMARY

God is deeply involved in His creation to the point that He punished Himself in order to justify the men and women who would receive His free gift of salvation. Jesus tried to convey the compassion that God has for each human being. God loves all people and wants everyone to be saved.

Once I realized God's plan from before the foundation of the world, I understand that he has not abandoned nor forsaken me. He is working out things in my life and nudging me to dig deeper into His marvelous grace. **Matthew 10:28-31**

Do you have an ear to hear with?