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Subject: Re: A psychological question: "choose to believe"

Posted by [Spoony](#) on Fri, 25 Feb 2011 02:07:08 GMT

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shippo wrote on Thu, 24 February 2011 18:14 Hell is a place of torment because of the separation from God.

i don't see why that would be any kind of punishment for an atheist.

Quote:In the Bible it doesn't say that in Hell there is fire

it's true that the description of hell in the bible is rather vague, which may explain why you think many christians are wrong about it (as i'm sure they think you are if you say there's no fire). do you think Revelation is canonical?

Quote:or that Satan walks around ruling the place, it was originally designed as a place for the angels that rebelled along with Satan to be sent to, NOT for us. However, we sinned and basically doomed our selves there.

who's we?

your point seems irrelevant; you're still saying it was decided by this god of yours that we'll be sent there as a punishment, although i'm not sure what crime you're talking about. it would have to be an enormously grievous crime, wouldn't it?

Quote:Now this is the part I was trying to get at, most pp think that "God sends pp to Hell because they don't believe in him" right? Well the point the Bible tries to get across is, that we are already going there and because God is loving, he wants to prevent us from going there.

so why doesn't he just stop sending people there? how about this arrangement: when atheists die, that's it? cos i'd prefer that. i don't want an afterlife, certainly not one that has anything to do with the god of the bible.

Quote:As far as your question on believe or not to believe, and how it is a moral dilemma, I will simply state that everyone has been given free will. You can chose to believe anything you want, our job as Christians is just to share with you what God has given to us in the Bible.

did you actually read the original question in my first post? the bit where i say that belief is not a choice at all? if it is a choice in your case, then your mind works differently from mine, and apparently other peoples' too (because of the many people i've asked the question "can you choose to believe something?" the overwhelming majority said no)

finally, "given free will"? if you're given it by the whim of a dictator, it's not free. and if there's a punishment for choosing the wrong thing, then that's not free either.

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