

# Why Doesn't God Save Everyone?

## Does God want everyone to be saved, or just the elect?

In some sense, God only wants to save the elect

We see it in Scripture

- God could save everyone, but He doesn't (Deuteronomy 29:2-5; Matthew 19:16-26, 23:12-13)
- Romans 9:14-18

Why doesn't He save everyone?

- In order to show His glory (Romans 9:19-24)

Why would a loving God choose to not save some just for the sake of His glory?

*God's caring about His glory is not prideful*

- Delight in your own honor or glory is not necessarily pride. Pride is caring *too much* about your honor or glory. Just like greed doesn't mean "caring about money" it means "caring too much about money" (Luke 14:7-11)

*Why God cares about His glory*

- Beholding God's glory is the greatest delight there is (Psalm 84:10, 27:4, 16:11)
- God greatly enjoys beholding His own glory (Psalm 21:6)

*God wants to see His glory fully manifest*

- God likes seeing things made manifest (2 Chronicles 32:31)
  - Before time began, or before creation started, each person of the Trinity knew that YHWH was creative, and just, and merciful, but I think it's safe to say that their knowing that, while being a very true knowing, was only knowing in theory. But they each wanted to see that glory made manifest and visible, not just in theory, but in practice, and so, they decided to create angels, humans, animals, and everything else, in order to manifest their glory and make it visible.
  - Before sin existed in the world, God's justice and mercy were only in His heart, but He likes to see what's in the heart come out of the heart
  - In order for the glory of God's creativity to be shown, He has to create; in order for the glory of God's justice to be shown, there has to be sin, and He has to punish it; in order for the glory of God's mercy to be shown, there has to be sin, and He has to forgive it
  - This is why God even though God knew that angels and humans would sin of their own free will, and He knew that our sin would grieve Him, He decided to create us anyways, and to allow us to sin rather than preventing it.

*God's great concern with His glory is not unloving*

- Love within the Trinity makes God's desire for "His" glory to be an outworking of love
- Each member of the Trinity desires for each other member, as well as for the Godhead as whole, to be glorified. That desire is a necessary part of Their love for one another.

God desires all to be saved

We see it in Scripture

- 2 Peter 3:9; 1 Timothy 2:1-4; Ezekiel 33:11

God grieves over the suffering of the non-elect

- Luke 19:41-44; Jeremiah 48:29-33; Romans 9:1-5

### I think God's grief over the suffering of the non-elect isn't limited to this life only

- I think that for each and every sinner in Hell, for every moment they are there, God will feel grief over their suffering (Isaiah 65:17; James 1:17; Hebrews 13:8)

### Greater delight in His glory

- Just as God allows sin and suffering on earth because His delight in His glory being more fully shown is even greater than His grief, so it will be in the afterlife
- But I would say that God is always thinking about everything that's ever happening, and always looking at it from every angle all at once, cause that's the nature of His omnipresence, and His infinite mind, and His infinite attention-span, and if I'm right about that, then in a very real sense, the everlasting suffering of each person who is in Hell, will bring God everlasting grief, and yet the joy of His glory being fully manifest will also be everlasting, and will outweigh that grief.

### God's sincere love for the non-elect

- God's choice to not save the non-elect, is not some cold, emotionless, detached decision, it very much causes Him grief to choose to not save them, probably even everlasting grief in some sense, but He still considers it worth it.

## Closing Thoughts

### God's choice is worth it

- 1) God is God, and we are not, and the happiness of any person of the Trinity is way more important than human happiness, because He's God and all things exist for Him (Colossians 1:16)
- 2) For every single person in Hell, for every moment they are there, God's glory will be being shown in their punishment. God is not allowing people to be condemned for ever and ever, just so He can have one fleeting moment of delighting in His glory at the final judgment. For every sinner there, for every moment they are there, God will be watching them, and thinking about them, and while He may be grieving for them, He will have an even greater delight in His glory. That delight is for each person of the Trinity. And that everlasting, increased delight in Their glory for every sinner that's there makes Their allowing that person to be there, worth it.

### God's choice is loving

- God will not allow one more person to reject Christ than is necessary for His glory to be fully shown
- Whatever He chooses in election will lead to His maximum glory
- Now that I've said that there's 3 points I want to make about God's choice being loving
  - 1) God's choices in election will lead to the greatest possible happiness of each member of the Trinity, which is loving
  - 2) God's choices in election will lead to the greatest possible happiness of each and every one of the elect, which is loving
  - 3) There's real possibility that God's choices in election will lead to the greatest possible happiness of the human race as a whole, which would clearly and certainly be loving

## Conclusion

- God being triune makes His prioritization of His glory a loving thing, not a selfish thing
- God is sincerely grieved over the everlasting suffering of the non-elect
- God's choice is worth it