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Is God Good?

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Quincy High School

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"I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD do all these things." (Isaiah 45:7). God, himself, states that He is not of benevolent character and must be feared by His followers. Throughout both the Old and the New Testaments, the holiness of God is questioned. In the Old Testament, He is described frequently as angry, destructive, and vengeful. For it is God who created Man in His own image and allows Man to do as he or she pleases with the advice from God; God had not made it so Man has his or her own free will, He is the master and the creator after all, therefore Man's sin is God's sin. Is God truly good? "But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear Him, which after He hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear Him" (Luke 12:5)

It is evident in the Holy Bible that actions portrayed by God lack the idealism of what is defined as good. The lack of mercy and lack of empathy all are expressed in God as He uses the humans He has created for a mere game of bloodiness and destruction. Even in the stories used to show God as a man to worship, His awful nature is leaking through; for example, the biblical story of Noah and the Ark, God drowns the whole Earth

Every living thing that moved on land perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; people and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark (Genesis 7:21-23).

Acts of murder and genocide are not uncommon in the playing field designed by God.

Approximately 25 million had been lost, as stated in the Bible, by the hand of God in order to test, to punish others, or because He was- in the simplest of terms- bored. This, to be added, does not include the countless numbers of other human beings or animals who had just died- all death is at the hand of God, the blood be tainted with sin or innocent. With blood staining God's hands, His fearful crimes are as listed; God slaughters all Egyptian firstborn children and cattle because their king was stubborn (Exodus 12:29), God sends a plague to wipe out all of those whom complain about His killings (Numbers 16:41-49), God kills everyone in Sodom and Gomorrah by sending rain of fire down (Genesis 19:24), God has a bear tear apart 42 children (2 Kings 2:23-24), God murders a man for not impregnating His brother's widowed wife (Genesis 38:9-10), and much more has passed and more is to come according to Revelation 9:7-19 when God plans to send a swarm of mutated locusts to torture the human race of whom a third will be slaughter by angels in the latter of the storm.

Power hungry and practically insane in the mind, God forces unbelievers and "rebels" to partake in unthinkable, sinful acts. Rape, already disgusting and immoral, is a tool used by God; a mob demands to use a godly master's guest, but the master offers his daughter and a concubine. The mob takes the concubine and gangrape her. The master finds her on his doorstep in the morning, cuts her into 12 pieces, and ships the pieces around the country (Judges 19:22-29), as well, in missing roll call, an entire tribe is murdered, excluding the women who are instead raped (Judges 21:1-23). Sins against children, of whom are innocent, are also plentiful in the bible. Child sacrifice for a favor from God to murder even more was done by Jephthah as he

burned his daughter alive (Judges 11:30-39). Cannibalism of one's own children is also forced by God as a punishment (Leviticus 26:27-29 Jeremiah 19:9) and the slaughtering of one's own child, wife, or friend for worshipping a god who is not God is demanded (Deuteronomy 13:6-10). The children of Adam and Eve are punished for their parents' mistake, a mistake that had not been educated to Adam and Eve, at the neverending wrath of God. These considered sinful acts are done for and by the word of God, thus condemning those to the damnation of eternal Hell fires for His own amusement.

Other tales in the bible done in sport or from a bet also reinforce the idea that God is not good. In the Book of Job, Job's faith is tested in a bet between God and Satan. Job is a wealthy and rich man with a faith unshaken and pure, and that is why he is forced to suffer. First, his herd and property is robbed or destroyed, his children and a large population of his servants are all killed. He passes this test by remaining faithful. The second test afflicts Job with horrid sores all over his body; leaving him without his health, his offspring, his home, and his herd. He, still, remains faithful. Although this story is usually told to show that it is not one's belongings, but one's faith that matter. In reality, the story shows that God is thoughtless and cares only for Himself to seem powerful, unafraid to murder his followers and steal a man's health to prove Himself important. Even Jesus Christ was a pawn in God's game and another example of His awfulness. Jesus, the very flesh and blood of God, is used to test others of their faith whilst unleashing horrors. Through the deceiving, the abuse, and the murder of Jesus, God still has His son preach of His holiness. Allowing for His son to suffer as he hung by his flesh on wood while wearing a crown of thorns, as he was jabbed in the abdominals, as he was starved and dehydrated

all show the mercilessness of God. All Jesus had preached of love and forgiving does not seem to fit God's criteria.

It appears that the only goodness shown from God is that of which is shown from Man, and yet Man is far more evil than they are good. Although, there is not much, if any evidence, in either the Old or the New Testament to prove God has any pleasant characteristics other than the miniscule good portrayed by Man. Is God good?