



God's love vs. imperfect human love

We hear it all the time through traditional models of who God does and does not save. Calvinism is a traditional and acceptable teaching within Christian theology whereby God has predestined only certain people to love in a salvific sense. This, of course, means many people will never make it to heaven.

Arminianism teaches that while God loves everyone enough to save them, it is up to each person to accept His offer of salvation and thus "seal the deal." But once again, a large majority of the population will end up in hell rather than heaven. Both Calvinism and Arminianism display an imperfect love which was not strong enough to save everyone.

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:10

And there are no conditions on receiving His love, but only conditions on being ready to live in His Kingdom. But He doesn't just leave it up to us; He helps shape us into His image. God's perfect plans are to reunite His perfect creation to peace and wholeness. Isn't that great? This is divine intervention (Christ's Redemptive act). As much as we like to take credit for 'coming to faith,' it isn't up to us. We couldn't save ourselves from our own choices of destruction and estrangement from our creator, so He came down to save the world.

"So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness."
John 1:14

It has been engrained in our culture that eternal punishment awaits those with unbelief and that our creator is prevented from reaching anyone who is 'not willing.' But scripture paints a pretty good case that this is not the final outcome. Why?

God is not 'willing' that any perish (see Matthew 18:14), God is patient (see Psalm 86:15), God is kind. (See Titus 3:4), God is merciful. (See Ephesians 2:4), God is compassionate (See Exodus 34:6), God is going to transform and restore everyone. (See Acts 3:21), Love never fails. (See 1 Corinthians 13:7-8), God's ways far outweigh our ways. (See Isaiah 55:18).

Thoughts: Can anyone stop God's plan? Do we think we have the power and wisdom to stop God's will to restore all of creation to beauty and wholeness? Does evil prevent Christ from accomplishing His perfect redemptive act?

Verse: [1 Corinthians 15:28](#)

*And when all things have been subjected to Him, then the Son Himself will be made subject to Him who put all things under Him, so that **God may be all in all.***

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