

**Requirement #1 to become a Christian**

Must believe we are sinners, deserving to be eternally separated from God.

HOW COULD  
GOD ALLOW  
**GOOD PEOPLE,**  
OUTSIDE OF  
CHRISTIANITY,  
TO BE  
**SEPARATED  
FROM GOD**  
FOR ALL  
ETERNITY?

8 PRIMARY QUESTIONS SERIES

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## Four Common Assumptions

1. People are typically good, with a little bad.
2. Some people never get a sufficient opportunity to know about God.
3. God only deals with people as individuals.
4. It would be best if God would forgive everyone and punish no one.

## Four Presuppositions of the Christian Faith

1. Good people are not necessarily righteous people—There are no innocent people.
  - Little girl in North Africa
  - Golf professional analogy (Grip, Posture, and Alignment)
    - Good
    - Good with a little bad
    - Bad with a little good
    - Bad
  - “There are none good, no not one.”
    - David (Psalm 14)
    - Paul (Romans 3)
    - Jesus “Why call me good?” (Mark 10:18)
    - “Dead in your sin” (Ephesians 2:1)
  - Funeral home illustration

## 2. Everyone has a sufficient opportunity to know about God.

- Yes, though not the same opportunity, but never the less, a sufficient opportunity
- What are all people guilty of?
  - Not of rejecting Jesus
- If guilty of rejecting Jesus
  - Why the Great Commission?
  - God would be unjust for not sending His son and would make salvation no longer a gift of God’s grace
  - “No one will be judged for not obeying revelation they did not have.” John Piper
- Man innately knows there is a God (Romans 1)
  - Ecclesiastes 3:11 - “God has set eternity in their (man’s) heart.”
- Man is guilty of rejecting God, not Jesus (Romans 1:18)
- Those who desire God will be given an understanding of Him.
  - Story of Cornelius (Acts 10)
  - Dreams and visions in Muslim countries
- Not treating people the same is not being unfair (Matthew 20 parable)

## 3. God does not deal only with individuals.

- Westerners = Individualistic
- Easterners (Biblical days) = Corporate personality
  - Story of Achan (Joshua 7)
- We tend to dislike corporate personality, yet it is one of mankind’s greatest gifts
  - Play out scenario with and without corporate personality (1st Adam and 2nd Adam)

## 4. God would not be righteous if sinful people were not punished.

- To not punish sinful men would require God to lie
- Numbers 23:19