

Scriptures from New International Version unless noted

What About...?

TWO FOUNDATIONAL BIBLICAL CONCEPTS...

1. Unlimited Atonement. ***Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for the sins of the whole world.***

For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for ***all men*** *- the testimony given in its proper time.* (1 Timothy 2:5-6)

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense - Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:1-2)

But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them - bringing swift destruction on themselves. (2 Peter 2:1)

2. People Believe or Reject. ***People are given the responsibility to place their faith in Jesus as their Savior.***

"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." (John 3:36)

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. (Romans 1:18-20)

"...when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." (John 12:32)

"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son." (John 3:17-18)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith... (Ephesians 2:8)

For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the law. (Romans 3:28)

This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance (and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe. (1 Timothy 4:9-10)

Q) What About... Babies Who Die Young?

FALSE REASON... Babies are innocent – and not yet guilty of sin. False!

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... (Romans 3:23)

Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. (Psalm 51:5)

...sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned... (Romans 5:12)

...the result of one trespass [Adam's sin] was condemnation for all men... (Romans 5:18)

TRUE REASONS...

1. God is both Just *and* Loving. True.

...the wages [penalty] of sin is death... (Romans 6:23)

"For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God..." (1 Peter 3:18 NAS)

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

2. The Atonement (Payment for Sin) is Unlimited and Babies Have Not Rejected the Son. True.
"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." (John 3:36)

3. The Bible Teaches That Little Children Will be in Heaven – Based on Their Faith! True.
*At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" He called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. But if anyone causes one of these little ones **who believe in me** to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea." (Matthew 18:1-6)*
(see also Mark 9:35-42; Luke 9:46-48; Luke 18:15-17)

Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:13-14)

"See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven." (Matthew 18:10)

*He [David] said, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who knows, the LORD may be gracious to me, that the child may live.' But now he has died; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? **I will go to him, but he will not return to me**."* (2 Samuel 12:22-23 NAS)

The king [David] was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And thus he said as he walked, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"
(2 Samuel 18:33 NAS)

Q) What About... the Mentally Handicapped?
Q) What About... the Heathen in Foreign Lands?

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. (Psalm 19:1-4)

...what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. (Romans 1:19-20)

*And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he **rewards those** who earnestly seek him.* (Hebrews 11:6)

"From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us." (Acts 17:26-27)