

Who is God?

Questions about the purpose of the Christian faith

Introduction:

Who is God? Perhaps you are interested in this question, otherwise you would not have recognized this booklet. As you can see at the cover of this publication , I'm a Christian and have meditated upon my faith , while doing so, I realized that questions popped up in my mind , that captured me so much as a I found answers.

Them I want to share with other people. I'm aware, that these answers are limited by my personal horizon of faith and also through my individual personal imprint , even though I hope and pray, that you are able to use one or the other in a practical aspect on your personal search after God.

I'm referring often in my explanation to scripture passages of the Bible, even though I can not expect that all readers share and agree to my faith in the Word of God. Should this be not the case for you, I ask for your forbearance, also to look at these passages as a means for closer explanations upon my statements.

Are you already a Christian? Then you will for sure have a different relation to the Word of God -the Bible and be able like the people in Bereoa to check if my statements are in line with God's truth (Acts 17:11).Therefore I added mostly further scripture passages in brackets in order to confirm my statements.

By the way, this booklet is an extract of a more comprehensive book that has been published under the same title beside other books on my website:

www.bibel-und-zeitgeschehen.de

Now I wish you God's blessings!

How can we know, we really exist?

As one asks a fellowmen this question in his daily routine, then supposedly he will not taken seriously and the reactions will be accordingly: shaking of heads maybe would be the mildest form:- depending upon the character and temperament of the person opposite , although foot kicks against the shinbone would be possible consequence! That's the expression of the friendly neighbor, that what is the mindset : "I feel, so I am !". Yes, the "experience "of life around us, the impulse of the senses , gives the human being usually a secure feeling of his existence and the existence of what he calls "environment".

Even in former times people have thought about the subject existence or non-existence of the world and itself, mainly in the area of the so called philosophy (= love for wisdom). So out of it a new branch of philosophy was created, the so called "existentialism". And one part of this philosophers has tried to solve this problem, as they claimed "cogito, ergo sum": "I feel, so I am " – after one of their spokesman Rene Descartes .The mind and understanding has receive a key-role in the exploration of the final question after existence of the self and the world around it.

That this way leads to a dead end street, all those who traveled along this have experienced it !

Which opportunities we could think about that the world around us and we are not existing at all?

We for example could be...

-the dream of a being

-part of a computer game, wherein the player enjoy talking about the program, that even have thoughts about their real existence

-the thought of a being or a separate universe, that exists forever, but in himself has no remaining personality, it forms himself out of his imaginary world according to the laws and passes away in order to come back to life again in another imagined world.

So the "life "would be eternal, the personality of this life just temporary and continually Disconnected from a "non-personality".

-part of a movie, that again and again follows according to the set laws , wherein the persons involved seen to decide themselves –but in reality have no influence upon what happens and call it fate.

- A special case would be a world, without any underlying concept, simply created by a happy or an unhappy row incidents or "accidents". This world is real, but only in a material sense and kind , because her beginning can't be clarified, her end is not sure, her present is not controlled by anything but coincident . She can fall into any condition and her existence would be secured only for the one moment in the present. Aside from this, that such a world is not able to exist- her lawlessness" moves her into a condition , that one can't call really existence.Then it could be, that our senses don't tell us the truth about our environment:

- it could be, that the reality is made up differently , then our senses and our brain is projecting it- that maybe the "crazy and mad" people see the world more real than the "normal "people. If a person suffered from a psychological sickness or had experience with hallocinogene drugs or abuse of alcohol, that person knows that the appearing and changed discernment suddenly seem to be natural and normal to that person.

-it could be that one world or even many worlds exist around us, from whom we have no knowledge, like a man that swims in the open ocean, the heaven above him, the desert of water and a few meters, that he can only recognize, while meters below him there opens up a world, that he does not see nor know about. From time to time he may see parts of it, but can't sort them out not the beauty of this world below him nor the dangers that may threaten him eventually. - it could be that the human being thinks about it , but is limited in his worldview, so that An objective knowledge is not possible, but that human beings can only see and judge, what their mind already expects.

In conclusion one can say: The presumption, that the world is like we see it, is only one out of many thinkable possibilities and even worse: we don't know and will never know, if our world really exists and if the conscience of our existence fits the reality. How does the human being deal with that "point of view"?

Well, if someone really asks such a question, so he solves the problem usually in the way – that the question after the "truth"- the final evidence of his existence and of his world- he denies- "All is maja-deception" this or that way, like Pilate who said about Jesus in John 18:37-38

Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

Pilate saith unto him, What is truth?

What Pilate wanted supposedly to express, was his conviction that there is really an absolute, all-encompassing and final truth Pilatus, but no man can't comprehend it. And that is correct! As one is not able to measure the change of temperature inside a closed system, because the standard of comparison is missing, just as a fish does not know about the existence of the ocean as part of the surface of the earth and he is not able to say anything about it, only that what he describes as his information and categorizes in into his worldview. So the scientist is able to describe the world around him and the limits of his experience and inquired laws he is able to „explain“-but through this he still has no evidence and he will never be able to do so, because he is not able to leave this world. That is the root problem of philosophy of the modern western worldview! She claims in opposition to the world religions and known philosophies, to describe the world and its mechanisms and cycles and make them penetrably, without any preconditioned belief of any kind. She is proud to be "objective science" Even though her worldview bases also upon a faith dogma, that is not questioned: namely, that all, what exists is subject in any form of logic, and therefore also must be appraisable for humans.

Those experiences that are made in the material world e.g. that $1+1=2$, as one can't divide through zero - because the mathematical and logical solutions of the calculation are different! That there could be no equal opposite results- That the future is the result of the past events etc.- these is the philosophical foundation of this worldview, and these are based upon a **faith!!!** Well they do not contradict with our experiences, but what does that really mean? Furthermore the modern natural science has the tendency, to sidetrack questions, that do not fit into their modern world system,- e.g. why there are explicit forecasts upon future events, not occurred events, at best they call it then "self full-filling prophecy".

So the western worldview nowadays is not really a closed logical system, but also based upon a faith! What I mean with the word „faith“ is described in the Bible like this: Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

The „confession of faith“ of a modern day person could look like this:

The human of today has the hope, that all events in his life run inside all logical laws

He doesn't doubt, that finally all events are a logical result of cause and effect.

In case of observations, that contradicts this faith, so they will be negated or categorized as "not yet explainable". So the contemporary of today that says" I only believe what I see" and "to believe means to know nothing" as it is about the Christian dogmas like the existence of Heaven and Hell, even a very believing person! And there the problems start!

There now to two different worldviews collide that are based upon dogmas , that are not questioned, but only can be believed , even an “illuminated scientist” will deny it. The distinctiveness of the today materialistic and even atheistic faith compared to other belief systems is, that it does not need any kind of revelation outside of the world system , and therefore is nothing else than human speculation. For its agents all is relative, always referring to an observer inside the system, that is not able to have his own point of view, compared to the geocentric world system ,who describes the movement of the planets, but never could explain them. It’s sick, how proud the science today is about the heliocentric world system, because it sees its (re)discovery as the beginning of the enlightened western culture ! Let us stick to the problem of faith as a foundation of all knowledge:

Hebrews 11:3

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Every foundation of human knowledge is FAITH! If it is the faith in the God of the Bible or the unique reality of the visible world or the reality of the invisible world. So there is the example of a philosophical founded definition of the “living” and the “dead” material (the Bible has a different view as nowadays, compare Romans 8:19-22; Psalms 147:9 ; Luke 19:40 and others , for them there are no “dead “ things) .Every faith comes directly or indirectly not from human beings , but from God!

Why? Also atheists assume in the world like it is, no God has shown up, because a non-existence of God can’t be proven likewise as God believing humans can’t proof God’s existence. Even “no revelation of God “ is a revelation! Let’s look now at one revelation of God out of area of the Christian faith:

Exodus 3:1-6

Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

Here the Bible describes a revelation of God, who He is and how the human has to see the world. The human being is only able to know about himself and the world „from the outside view“, what God reveals him (one may intervene , that there are also self produced mystical experiences, e.g through meditation or consumption of – but there is the system can’t be left behind only extended. There also the human being part of the whole extended system!). Then the human has to believe the revelation, in order to create his view of life, which he needs in order to be able to live. Therefore it’s essentially important not only to have a belief , but the right faith!

Because faith is a conscience or unconscious decision, to trust in something that one is not able to proof. Faith is practiced by every human being daily, because he trusts in his life experience and thinks that the former empiric found and applied rules are also applicable for the present situation. For example: a car driver has faith every day in his life into the natural laws and the calculation, that other participants of the traffic, also the atheist, the naturalist, They daily practice a life of faith! About his „faith confession“ we've already been talking before. God's word describes him this way: Ephesians 2,3:

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

The „naturalist“ build his life upon the reliability of his senses and the “sense” of his mind and memory. He believes only, what he understands with his mind and rejects every form of “supernatural” revelation. As one confronts such a person with reports and experiences, that are „supernatural“, or takes away the reliability of the mind or the senses, then he „pulls away the ground under his feet“ and pushes him into „the fear to exist, that's hell for him!“ That's why there is resistance nowadays against any form of unexplainable wonders and the desire to explain every blow of fate and find one that's guilty. That's why all discussions about the evolution theory are senseless and the Christian books that are critical about evolution only Christians read. Even this so called evolution theory becomes more and more the faith confession of the modern world, which is not allowed to be questioned, even there are many serious arguments available against it (There is a little booklet from Winfried Bittner called: “Evolution-No thank you!”)

One that already had experience with drugs or got stuck in occultism, then he knows, what it means, as a person loose his faith upon the reliability and reproduction of natural laws like supernatural and natural scientific knowledge that is contrary to the usual occurrence and experiences. It destroys the self confidence and leads to extreme and panic fear and insecurity in life. We humans live surrounded by an invisible reality, as the word of God says but we are not able to cope with it without God's protection and guidance! That's why God has strictly prohibited any form of occultism (e.g Deuteronomy18:10-12)!.

What meaning has the logical thing for a Christian?

As already said, they logical thinking is not a neutral process of the brain, in comparison with a machine, because logic is always bound to the observation of our environment, it is learned thinking. (Compare e.g. physiology of the western with the Chinese medicine: Both are concluding according to the method if-then or because of then- but because they have different philosophical mindsets, they have an opposite view about the changing effects in the human body) The mind is always trying to categorize, what comes to his senses, and only because the majority of the people in the world have made the same basic experience, we are agreeing in the results of our thinking. Now we see e.g. at the comparison between the western with the traditional Chinese medicine, while we all try to get to understand things through analysis, thinks the Chinese medicine through the reporting and categorization of connections- and there she succeeds! We can only grasp the reality through the filter of our senses and mind, that has to have something- reproducible, repeatable laws- in order to cope with the world and not to be “pressed” The good thing is: God has made us in His image!

Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them

that travels with his This fact alone enables us“ to think the thoughts of God“ and at the basic words like „love“ or „truth“ we independently come to the same conclusions! That’s why every human being has the ability to think logically, and that is enabling us to grasp this world with our natural senses and gain knowledge.

However it is dangerous for the human being, to act upon his logical thinking in the spiritual realm apart from the revelation of God as the primary source of knowledge!

Apart from the revelation of God the logic leads into a labyrinth, because it transfers empiric gained principles from the natural world- like $1+1=2$ - into areas, e.g. the spiritual realm, where the rules are not always valid. We, for example are formed by observation, that things can be disassembled and then assembled again, upon this basis the mathematic understanding, that $1+1=2$. If we would live in a world of “liquid”, everything would run together always and dissolve into one another-the observation then would be $1+1=1$! So God says in Isaiah 55:8+9:

Isaiah 55,8+9:

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. God reveals himself through his word, that a world exists (the Heavens, the Hades, the spiritual realm/world) that is not like ours. Our logical thinking is not valuable at all. That something can't be the same and not the same, that a person to be at the same time in different places (The Lord! 1.Cor. 15,6) that all works must be done, but at the same time are already done from the beginning of time, the problem of predestination ,that all is predestined and the human being still has more or less his own will etc. Our mind is not able to comprehend all this, and does not need to do so, because it has been created for this world. Logic is allowed in the spiritual world, where God acts logically like for example in the conclusion of the Letter to the Romans, in all other areas it's not designated but one must believe!

Proverbs 3:5-6:

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Understood not clearly, and even has not to do it, because he has been created for this world . Logic is allowed in the spiritual realm, where God acts logically , for instance like in the conclusion of the Letter to the Romans , in all other areas it is not allowed to think , but one must believe!

John 20,24-29:

But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

Then saith he to Thomas, reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed !

One that wants to apply the laws of the natural world to the supernatural world, is like a blind person , hands through the jungle: he may recognize some things , also dangers , but he will always find confirmation upon his own speculations and set up himself a closed logical world ,that has less to do with the real world.

That's also the big problem of the esoteric and witchcraft! Witchcraft always tries find out the spiritual laws and apply them „logically“ in order to influence the ulterior world , but does not recognize that she is used by the ruling powers there and is lead astray .Also the modern theology tries to analyze God with the methods of the world and is even not far away from witchcraft .Sadly, even today many Christians are unconsciously “believers of rationalism“. They believe in God, but put the logic and their foundational philosophy in their daily life is aside or even above the truth of the Bible. Their want to serve „two masters“- but thats not possible!

Matthew 6:24

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

2. Corinthians 6:14

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?

Colossians 2:8

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Because rationalism for the people of the world is also a belief the rationalist will reject the Bible-believing people and eventually hate them, because they question their world view and cause their life security and self-conception to upside down. On the other hand rationalism destroys the faith of a child of God and the intervention of God in their lives foundationally!

Matthew 17:14-20

And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying,

Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.

Then Jesus answered and said:” O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I suffer you? Bring him hither to me. And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour. Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said:” Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you:” If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

So for Christians to keep a living faith must stay away and distance themselves from many philosophies and teachings of science – that will lead to the fact that they will be distained from the world , wherein knowledge is counted as one of the most desirable attributes, and strongly forms the social status of a citizen:

1. Corinthians 1:26-31

For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord!

The question is, if they could serve the world better, as they conform to her! Without faith It is impossible to please God! (Hebrews 11) and they will not be able to work miracles. Isn't it better, to be a bit „dumb” in the eyes of the fellowmen! (Acts Chapter 3+4)
But what is really the mark of the faith of a Christian? What is the difference in comparison to the eastern philosophies and religions or from the “belief “of an atheist? In order to explain the difference, I will again point to the Bible!

Genesis 32:23-31

*And he took them, and sent them over the brook, and sent over that he had.
And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob' thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.
And he said: Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. And he said unto him: What is thy name? And he said, Jacob.
And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.
And Jacob asked him, and said: Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.
And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved. And as he passed over Peniel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh.*

That is a again one of the strange stories in the Bible, that seems very “childish” in the first impression, but spiritually speaking it bears deep truth! As one reads it, he must question, why God-He was it, was fighting with Jacob the whole night.

-He didn't kill Jacob, but had a fake fight, like parents do it sometimes with their children, wanted to show his supremacy.

-But gave Jacob the approval, that he had won the fight against God.

-What kind of victory it was and what was the reason?

Jacob wrestled with God on that level and He (God) allowed it to be defeated by a “human being”! Yes, it says: God saw, that he didn't surrender, and God asked Jacob, that he (Jacob) should let him go! That this victory of Jacob had nothing to do with physical supremacy, should be clear for everyone. But Jacob “defeated” God in the way- or because he didn't let go of the blessings of God ,his gracious dealings. Jacob was clinging totally to God, in order to receive the blessing as the weaker part, even though:

“There is God, I have not a limb of a chance against Him”.

Faith is therefore an „embracing“ of God (the name Habakuk means for example „embracer“- knowing to be totally surrendered – and not letting go of Him- being victorious with God or get down with God. Here a further story, now from the New Testament Matthew 15:21-28:

Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon.

And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

This here mentioned story is even more extreme, because Jesus, the Son of God comes against his own conviction and also against the declared will and commission of his Father just as he said himself: „for I do always those things that please him“ (John 8:29) meaning he (Jesus) is putting up a conflict with His Father! What is the kind of faith that woman has, as Jesus calls it „big“? Anyway the Lord made it very clear with His words, that she had no claim and no right to receive the help of God in her case. But: the woman did not give up to “embrace” God! She didn’t allow herself that God got rid of her or she couldn’t be convinced, to have done something unlawful, she only knew: This Jesus I need, and what He does with me, it doesn’t matter to me-And then Jesus:“ jumped over His shadow“ , helped her, because she didn’t let go.

What does this story tell us? Christians have been taught, that God intervenes and has to intervene, as the promises of the Holy Scriptures are fitting for our given situation, and that’s okay from the Bible. And even then, the practical faith often is downgraded like a “deal”!

Neither God „must“ do something, even as we remind Him about His promises or „proclaim“ them –still God deals basically only according to His own convictions! If that would be the case, then the people of Israel would have perished in the desert, the intercession mostly would be useless. It is true: There is a limit, when God does not listen anymore, but turns away (compare Genesis 18:32+33). But where this limit is, we don’t know, only as He has gone away already.

As one deals with God like Jacob in that night, like the woman from Canaan with Jesus, that “forces” God to intervene, then:

John 6:37

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out

How God then will intervene, we leave it to Him. But God does not only tolerate this behavior, but is excited about it, it says in Psalms 147:10-11

He delighteth not in the strength of the horse: he taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man. The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

And in Hebrew 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Now, what is the difference between the Christian Faith and that of the philosophers?

The faith of the Christians also consists of holding for truth from dogmas, that should not be questioned and also the trusting in the made faith experiences. But that is only important superficially.

The crucial fact is something different, namely: the unconditional surrender and giving of the personal life to God, but also the childish unconcern to trust the Father to pour out your heart before Him without fear. Christians are allowed to be and should be children of God – not more, but also not less!- then they will experience God's intervention:

Matthew 18:1-4

At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying:” Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Isn't it dangerous ? Does it not sound like presumption? Let's just look upon a behavior of presumption!

Matthew 4:5-7:

Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.”

One may recognize it clearly the difference between faith and presumption: As the believer throws himself in his misery into the arms of God and lays his problems upon Him, the person with presumption tries to extort God without any need with His promises. The outward facts may be the same in both cases, even the prayers sound similar, but the inner motives of the heart are totally different!

Let's go back to our question from the beginning: From wher can we know, if we really exist? The answer is: We can't know it! The answer also for a real christian must be:

We are not able to know it! Also the Christian faith finally can't give a final evidence for our existence and for the reality of the world we experience, the world around me and even the appearance of God, miracles , fulfilled prophecies and answered prayers are not an evidence , that can lead us to a point outside of the “system”. Only the faith , the total surrender to God gets us out of the predicament of questioning our existence!

Is there a God, , the world around me and a real me, do the heavens exist, the world , heaven and hell? I can't know it.

Anyway, it really doesn't matter. I cling to the Lord , who has shown me, who has given me faith as a gift and who has revealed Himself to me, I belong to Him for better or worse, I don't trouble myself anymore, what I believe really is reality. Just as the writer of the psalms says in Psalms 131:

Simple trust the Lord

A Song of Ascents of David.

*LORD, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty:
neither do I exercise myself in great matters,
or in things too high for me. Surely I have
behaved and quieted myself, as a child that
is weaned of his mother: my soul is even as
a weaned child.*

*Let Israel hope in the LORD from henceforth
and for ever!*

How has God ordered the world?

Just as explained in the first chapter, the materialist relies upon his natural senses and his human understanding. In this there are two basic dogmas of contemporary world view, that are the foundation and belong of the self conception of our culture:

- a. All in the universe is ordered and connected according to the laws of the visible or even through technical helps, cognitive efforts or supernatural perception of the world we are able to experience- eventually not yet known
“spiritual” worlds. The logic is in all these areas finally the law and it seems unlogical because the human being has the whole connections to each other not known yet.
- b. The visible and understandable world bases upon an order that eventually came into existence by coincidence or God created her, now she is left alone and by her own laws and they are strongly effected by coincidence (the so called deism). So the coincident is the great “creator-god” of the materialism!

These both views are the result of the philosophies of the enlightenment, that made the logic to be the measure of all things and from the development in the atomic physics and her attempts of explanation in the beginning of the 20th century they made a row of observations in the quantum and relativity theory and tried to explain it logically. There they lost the absolute measurement time and root cause/working principle, also the continuation of processes. Through the definition of „chaos“ as the root cause of unpredictable events in the atomic area they had a strong influence upon society of the last century. While the 19th century believed all things could be calculated by mathematics, then the unpredictable and incalculable- the “chaos”- finally became the working principle. That is totally contrary to the statement of the Bible!

Psalms 104:24

O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

Psalms 147:4

He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names.

Psalms 148,4-6

Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created.

He hath also stablished them for ever and ever: he hath made a decree which shall not pass.

Isaiah 40,12

Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

1. Corinthians 14:33

For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

The Bible leaves no doubt , the Lord of Creation left nothing to be by coincidence. That is not only valid for the nature in its order, also for the human being and his way of life!!

Jeremiah 10:23

O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

Proverbs 16:9

A man' heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps

This mindset – that all in the life of a human being and in nature is exactly ordered and appointed – but is absolutely contrary to the self- conception, and also from a divinely arranged order „ like this and not any different“ from that the humans of today don't believe in.

It is like that, mainly because the human of today in general doesn't recognize a Creator of order, nor does he accept that beyond the laws of his touchable world with its logic there is something superior. But always the humans had an idea about the reality of an invisible world ,that influences the reality and is superior to her. Where does this come from?

Ecclesiastes 3:11

He hath made everything beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

Romans 1:20

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.

God himself is it , who gave the human being the ability to recognize God's invisible being beyond the visible realm and then get an idea from the existence of a spiritual world!

Why then has this been lost in our cultural environment?

Jude 10

But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

Ephesians 4:17-19

This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness...

1. Corinthians 2:14

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Here the Bible connects the knowledge about the spiritual world with the search for God! Whoever denies the existence of God or still believes in a Creator, but is not willing to search after him, that person becomes „darkened in his mind“ and „becomes deluded“, he gets blind for the spiritual world around him and for the divine order, he becomes a captive of his natural senses. But who wants to know something about the world around him, can do this truly and reliably only through the Spirit of God. That is possible through being born again by faith in the Son of God Jesus Christ, but I believe, that God even reveals Himself to a certain degree to the seekers of God from other religions. For example like to Bileam of Petor at the Euphrat river (compare: Leviticus 22:5; 24:3). All direct connections into the spiritual world apart from God e.g. like through drugs or contemplative practices are like a jump into unknown waters, they can cost your neck and head! (compare: John. 10)

The preference for the chaos as the „ordering factor“ of the natural world- The Chaos theory are put in place, as the human being is not able to comprehend the whole view of root cause and changing effects in nature, e.g. in the weather events or even processes in economy - has also a very inconvenient spiritual background!

John 8:37-44:

I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God. Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it

Ephesians 2:1-3

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

The Bible speaks about, that all human beings, that don't believe in Jesus Christ are under a spirit of the enemy of God and is called „diabolos“- the one that causes confusion

This one tries to destroy the Creation of God by “creating chaos”. No wonder why people, that are far away from God make the coincident, who is the “father of chaos” the superior principle of nature alternatively exalt the creation!

With this something happened, which was not intended, but still has an effect upon their lives:

Matthew 6:24 *No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*

Through the adoration of the „chaos“ with the coincident as the superior god of life the human beings distance themselves more and more from God and therefore are under the influence of the devil and they are exposed to sin (compare Romans 1:20-25). The belief in coincidence is also a spiritual thing, that God names idolatry and leads the human beings away from God. How does our society nowadays think about building up the world?

Traditionally the world in our cultural environment is categorized in two areas, the animated and lifeless nature, wherein „life“ in the biology is accurately defined: animated beings reproduce, grow and develop, move out of their own strength, take in food, breath and react upon stimulations. In philosophy they distinguish between physics and metaphysics, wherein the first bases upon experience and perception, the other can be comprehended only by meditation. Therefore the world around us is categorized in substances who are alive, dead, earthly and spiritual world.

According to the general principal mindset of today the life is only a complicated punch of finely balanced physical processes and therefore „lifeless“ nature. And the metaphysical areas are also only white spots upon the map of science – so for example they try to explain visionary and foresight of the future (time traveling)! Not to mention, that the Bible has totally different statements, that starts with the beginning of all things- from the living and „dead“, from the material world and immaterial world

Psalms 104:1+2

Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty. Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain.

John 1:1-5+9-11

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

Colossians 1:15-17

Who (Jesus Christ) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Hebrews 1:3

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.

What do these scripture passages say: a. As the physics also the Bible teaches, that the light is the primary substance, out of it all was made, there the Bible includes the spiritual world also, from which the science doesn't know about – they are called powers, dominions, rulers.

b. Light is the garment of God- there the Being of God is closely connected with the light. Isn't it surprising- That the science hardly can't get the clou about explaining the light? We can describe the connections between light, space and time – but can't comprehend it!

c. So even the word of God is a power and meaning in the Bible, which goes far beyond of what the physics calls vibrancy of a medium and carrier of information between the two parts of the brain. The Word of God, yes even the words of men are closely connected with the spiritual realm, therefore the human being one day must give account before God! (Matthew 12:36; Proverbs 18:21). The Word of God has power and preserves the Creation. The most important thing is, that all the natural and supernatural world has been created by God, only exists through him. Even the devil would no longer exist without God! All has its common origin in him, namely in God, connected with one another and brought in line with one another. That's why we find in nature, from the micro- cosmos and the building of the one-celler until the planets and stars von many harmonies and harmonic processes! The periodic system, the design of the plants and animals, the movement of the planets, yes even the weather, a really complicated process, but full of seemingly incidents of harmonies. God has taken care and made sure that humankind will recognize Him through the Creation! (Romans 1:19+20)

As already mentioned before, in the Holy Scripture-The Bible there is no separation between living and death nature- God doesn't know any „dead nature"! Romans 8:19-23

For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

It says here explicitly “the whole Creation” – that includes stones, water and air! The scripture ascribes a personality to the Creation.

Psalms 147:7-9

Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God:

Who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains. He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry.

Here and at other scripture passages (Numei 22:21-30; Psalms 104:21) in the scriptures

Not only ascribes the animal a personality, but also a connection with God. One that has animals and observes them accurately, will find out that they behave differently as one worships and Prays to God as usually. That doesn't only fit to the animals with spines, but also for insects, that are not seen as fellowmen of the human beings in a pack.

Ephesians

6:12

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Hebrews 1:7+13-14:

And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. (Psalms 104,4) But to which of the angels said he at any times(Psalms 110,1):

” Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool”? Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

The Bible does not only describe our natural world as through and through “alive“-she also talks about a parallel world, an invisible reality, that can not be experienced - without our knowledge and not through our natural senses ,but really exists. There it talks about angels, demons,authorities, power, that all have an effect upon us human beings and the nature around us. (compare Ephesians 2,2; Daniel 10:13+20; Isaiah 13:21+34:14):

2. Kings 6:15-17

And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

Behind world- political events there are powerful spiritual forces! The same is true for sicknesses:

Luke 13:10+11

And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself.

Who would suppose a spirit behind a distorted backbone ? She is a mechanical deformation, surely caused by a capacity overload or a defect by birth, like Morbus Bechterew!

Also the sin of the human being has an effect upon nature! So Isaiah says:

Isaiah 24:3-6

The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the LORD hath spoken this word. The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

Exodus 18:24+25

So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said.

And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

In conclusion we can say, the worldview of today can't be totally justified upon the conditions as the Bible describes them! As some take not all of the scripture literally, what is said about the Creation, one must admit, that the view as God looks upon the world is totally different as most of our contemporaries of today

And even more as our eyesight tells us about the invisible powers, the good and the evil that directs and effects our environment. What has been exhausted in former times, where everything that was not understood was interpreted spiritually, nowadays because of the progress of science and the triumphal procession of atheism, no one pays attention so that God through blessings and curses like calamities and wars is not able to speak to the human beings anymore:

Amos 4:6-11

And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered. So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD. I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the palmerworm devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD. I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses; and I have made the stink of your camps to come up unto your nostrils: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

The people nowadays hold themselves wise and superior compared to the people of former centuries, but what they have gained in knowledge and power in the visible world likewise they have lost in the whole view of Creation and their spiritual connections. It is true what the letter to the Romans says about the human beings, that don't want to know nothing about God (Romans 1:22) Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools!

How can we know, there exists a godly personality?

Is there a god? A majority of the society is convinced that this isn't the case. A further part believes that there is a somehow a godly power or a godly principle existing, from where all came from, but they would not name it "personality". The followers of the monotheistic religions in fact are convinced a godly personality exists, that has made us a d to whom we are morally responsible. These diverse viewpoints have far reaching consequences for the way of living for the "believers"!

While the followers of an image of god of a godly personality believe in God as the "cause of all things", that exists by himself and out of time, meaning under the law of becoming and perishing, to that personality they are accountable in some way because she has given them their lives, in contrary the followers of the other viewpoint reject the moral accountability upon any kind of god! Still this group recognizes the moral obligations towards any kind of god regarding the natural laws that they can identify or those morally high laws from the "godly light"- a principle- that has been revealed to enlightened human beings!

And of course also atheists know foundational moral principles, that guarantee the preservation and wellbeing of society .Would both groups read the ten commandments of the Old Testament Exodus 20,1-17:

1 And God spake all these words, saying,

2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is , and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

13 Thou shalt not kill.

14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

15 Thou shalt not steal.

16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

So even the atheists would agree to the commandments 5-10, but what is mentioned before now causes embarrassment as a former ancient patriarchal faith mythos and will be rejected and seen as inhuman and even very dangerous! So Christians must be aware about the fact that as society takes the Sermon on the Mount or the life of Jesus as their measurement and even will be received by the opposite party. And as a personal God enters the conversation, suddenly the consensus is lost. Both groups have common values, but distinguish. Totally in their hierarchy of values: others are accepting the faith in God as a „crutch for weak personalities“, as we accept the moral laws that refer to other people, the sequence from all monotheistic religions is the opposite: first comes God, then the human being (compare „the Lord’s prayer. No wonder why we are counted as a dangerous people and fool out of the world by the people who reject our world view. They count us also as unpredictable for the society and potentially dangerous. The „world people“ don’t understand us and are afraid of us; Not to deny the fact, that the society has lost her trust in the people who believe in God though the evil deeds from a few monotheists. Let’s turn now to the part of humankind, that you also maybe belong to: to those people that believe in the existence of an origin of all things, this person whom we call “God”. One that thinks about the world around him and trusts in his human senses must recognize, that in nature also as in the history there is a progression from the seed to the tree, from the rock to the sand, from the infant to the elder person, from the becoming to the perishing and fading away. The observation of nature teaches us that permanent process in our environment can be recognized, without any influence from the outside and infusion of energy and an ordering power. This process reaches its state from there to an always higher state of order to a more higher state. The scientists call it the 2nd Thermodynamic law, they call it the so called „temperature death“. Yes, the death is a continuing and permanent reality in life, even the life succeeds in reproducing himself. Who or what stands behind all this life dynamic or who or what behind death? What holds the world together and keeps it moving as coincident is the equalizer of all differences, without him there is no flow of energy, no movement no physical and chemical processes and therefore no life? One that doesn’t believe it, must throw the dice long enough and note down the eyes of them, to calculate their average value. This average value comes close to the one of the dices of 3.5. If you call this principle behind God or not is not relevant, the fact remains, that a world without a power which works against coincident permanent and intelligent would be dead already, like a mechanical clock, which runs out of energy one time.

A human being that believes in a GOD as the „origin root of all things“, who exists out of himself and stands above all time and space has now two different opportunities that explain the relationship of God to his Creation. a. The general valid definition of God in our cultural sphere as a being with a unique personality, that has created all the existing things, that has an intellect and power over all the Creation and stands above it and doesn’t depend upon his Creation, because he works in his Creation but is separate from her as a person and is not effected by her. In conclusion to that the Creation is able to recognize the Creator, but not able to fathom the whole depth of him. That is the kind of faith of all monotheistic religions also the natural religions and even the Bible tells this about God and his Son Jesus Christ:

Colossians 1,15-17:

Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

a) There is a total different possibility, whom the majority of humans on this planet prefer- we will see, even atheists- namely the so called pantheism: b. The world how we recognize her with her becoming and fading is part of a system that exists out of himself. Parts of aspects of this world may die and perish and come to life anew, the world as a whole will remain eternal, that means in all future exist and ever existed before all time. She, the world has no beginning and no end, but an inner intelligence and ordering power, that out of herself continuously creates new movements, in many ways of this there is a repeating process of a circle one can say, it can be illustrated like a wheel.

Therein a superior Creator does not exist, in fact would go total contrary to this worldview, one must see that system in its wholeness as God! That's why every created being, even every existing material and eventually not material form of being is a tiny piece of "God", to compare it with an empire of insects, which exists of plenty individual beings, that are limited, so the single empire will remain. There are ordering powers existing if the life in the empire is in danger and causes disadvantage to its state. The whole empire takes the characteristic of a personality, that goes far beyond of that of an individual being. So also the „god-likeness“ of the single individual being in that system is limited, it only can become aware of the „god-likeness“ of the whole system and deal accordingly within it.

Let us look at some ways of this belief-system:

1. The world is a functioning system, which in its wholeness is a complex organism with a high characteristic personality, a being who consists out of uncountable single individuals, which are set together and connected with one another result in a godly personality. Each of these single individuals from the stone up to that which humans call gods can have an effect of healing or hurting upon the whole system, that's why it is subject of the ordering laws, that preserve the existence of the whole individual, first and foremost to the so called law of "seed and harvest" In some belief-systems additional to the "law of karma" the law of rebirth in its different characteristics and different worlds is added (Buddhism, Hinduism, religion of the American Indians and also different esoteric teachings) All is alive and has a personality, in its individual form and characteristic of life (Stone, ant, human being or spirit and is bound to designated laws

2. The world is an unending pulsing process of the world affairs, an ever repeating of ages, wherein the single individuals exist, but to be thrown into new worlds that more or less are created by chance. They live, suffer and perish, they are part of a big machine, that live by „pulsing“, but preserve themselves and are content in it.

3. The world system develops through the catharsis of its single individuals, that apply“ the „godly power“ consciously, by chance repeating calamities seem to occur- The hitting of a meteorite, earthquakes, sicknesses, wars etc. They further lead to a greater world and unity consciousness until finally all parts are melted together to a godly unity and godly consciousness „we are on with the world and this world is god! We are all gods, that are on the way of "becoming". This is hindered by those members and parts which are not open to the understanding: the followers of monotheistic religions!

Goal of this process is the god –consciousness of all individuals in order to reach the perfect state of god until all falls apart again. That faith is found in the so called “New Age” -

4. In comparison to the first three belief systems, the fourth one stands upon a worldview of , that in himself as a whole possesses no personality. In materialism it is the material, that can't be created or even destroyed. Of course material can be transformed into energy, but energy transforms himself always into a form of light and again can become material .The whole thing functions according to natural laws, the human being with all his personality and also the highly developed animals are a kind of complex chemical manufacturing plant : personalities and reflexions are more or less coincident . One of its kind of beliefs is the belief system of evolution, wherein all life came into existence by coincidence , that coincidence took advantage of the natural laws that also came into existence by coincidence . According to this worldview this world we recognize and experience only one of many possible other worlds , then it is understandable, why the human beings spend plenty of energy and money in order to discover these other worlds, that seem useful to us , but also can become dangerous to us . If the evolution theory is the Genesis of this belief, then the “revelation” of it is science fiction. Even if the ambassadors of this belief system are mostly atheists, who deny the existence of a personal god and also a whole personality of God as a sum of all Single individuals-for them not all is alive, but all is dead! –They speak to this world indirectly that it has a godly personality! Because energy and material are eternal, they never have been created, they always have existed, never can be destroyed in their wholeness , the natural laws in which they operate came to life by coincidence . They only can be set out of order by other higher natural laws and this newly created ordering systems rule the world so relentlessly. So no wonder why the media always mentions:

“The evolution has done this and done that” or “because the nature wanted it like that”.

The nature itself has taken the place of God, as the Bible describes:

Romans 1,18-25

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen

What does that mean? That means nothing less than the fact, that all atheists are god believing human beings! Their god is the dead and living nature-in the last two centuries

firstly, now even more the second last century – no wonder why nature and nature preservation gets more into focus and higher priority in the society . A new moral is coming into existence, that calls „good” supports what has enduring, lasting value and preservation of nature in their focus , and calls “bad” what is against the reproduction and nature .

Soon the god nature must be offered sacrifices e.g. sacrifices for the climate change, and for this new religion it's about the „existence of the planet“. It's a claim of the absolute as also a conviction, that the preservation of nature must have priority before the preservation of humankind and also the right of the individual . Meaning: Eventually human sacrifices are necessary in order to serve the god nature sufficiently! The modern atheism is a pantheistic religion, that's why one sins against every fellow human as one harms society and nature. For the climate and environmental polluters there will be soon no mercy , because one that harms nature , also sins against his own children .And children are the only hope of atheist ,to let one part of his personality to continue living ! The consequence of this mindset, which the Bible calls idolatry can't be stopped, because God has ordered it that way. The drama is, that the believers of this kind of conviction are not aware about what they are doing is wrong. And that God's laws are not asking who is guilty, but who sins (a big difference!) The underlying problem is not in this or that motive or the worship of nature, but in the turning away from the worship to God .This not only has timely but also eternal consequences:

2.Thessalonians 1,6-10:

Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; when he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

The Pantheism – the world(s) in its wholeness as a godly personality- is the uprising religion of humankind, even if it's found in different forms, which even will eventually fight against each other. What speaks against this view of belief? Always it stand radically opposite against the Christian faith and is never on the same common denominator. So, what makes Christians so sure they have not bet on the wrong horse? In the variation of materialism the question is allowed, how a system, whom “officially” no personality is appointed- that the belly thinks different then the head is an Other kind of thing!-and that runs so wonderfully ordered and finely tuned according to impersonal and accidentally produced laws .At least “life” is marked by the goal oriented movement of the living, while death is marked by unordered movement or deadlock of the system. Science points out the coincidence on a very long span of time, which has run through the development of the so called “big bang” until the development of the universe and life of today. But as coincidence , as already mentioned balances the formed orderings, that are marked by differences of energy or other forms as more accurately as longer as “He has time for it! It can't be clearly recognized, why this development “accidentally” could run so far. Some convinced atheistic scientist have concluded that a personality would be necessary, that possesses an ordered will and is monotheistic as God or pantheistic interpreted, as a personality - the universe.

As the whole universe is interpreted a person, that in her wholeness is „god“, so the next question comes up: Why we humans as “highly developed“ building blocks of God know in comparison to other parts of the system very seldom that we are god? Why doesn't God know, that “it“ is god? Why then teachers and experts are necessary? A god or part of god that doesn't know that he is god, cannot be all knowing: how can he be god then? That very question sounds smart, but especially for Christians it has a hook! Because also God was, as Jesus Christ came to Earth for a period of time not all-knowing:

Philippians 2,7:

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.

Luke 9,46 -48

Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest.

*And Jesus, **perceiving** the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him,*

And said unto them, Whosoever shall receive this child in my name received me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great.

Also Jesus was limited in his knowledge, of course freely! And so the agents of Pantheism explain the necessity for spiritual masters and gods, that take care of the human beings for the reason, that the system is wholly godly, but in itself limited and has members that are still under development. Another possibility would be a“ pulsing”

god, that is getting aware more and more by every member until it is fully conscience, until its breaking apart in unconscious members, of course into other states of consciousness, that fully communication with one another and use the time of being members – the spiritual masters-their awareness of being god and this dominates by the catharsis of reincarnation through all members more and more, until the fusion

to an all knowing allmighty and allfilling god. That some day will fall apart in its single members in a new time age (Aeon). Of course, also in this form of God one can believe! Because God is able to stand outside and above the laws of logic, the system in itself is closed

The next question, which can be asked in Pantheism is the moral one and in connection to it -the origin of suffering. Why the system allows evil things to happen, that always has a system destroying effect- why God abuses himself? Some agents of Pantheism explain that the occurrence of evil, from willingly and consciously evil e.g. from humans, from the cruelty in nature and from the suffering in the system, through the lack of knowledge of its “building blocks”. For example in Buddhism beside the law of karma, the desire greed of the human being is the root cause of all suffering. In order to overcome the desire and Buddhism holds some teachings ready, to get rid and free of all the desires in order to reach “nirvana”, the extinction of the individual personality (!) and the fusing together with all that exists. The key for this explanation brings us to the “knowledge“, wherein we conclude, that “knowledge“ in Pantheism, stands at no neutral position of significance, but portrays a moral claim. Meaning: one, that excludes himself from knowledge and the acquiring of knowledge is “evil” and must be purified according to the internal laws of the system.

The denial of getting knowledge is destructive to the system or at least repress it and that's why condemnable, so also the agents of monotheistic religions, that hold tight to the „foolishness „of a personal god. Lastly the agents of monotheism and pantheism differ in the question of the moral of God! Because there is a great difference, if God „is evil „, in himself“, allowing evil in himself- and therefore must be at the same time good and evil!!! –Or „He“ expects evil outside of himself or uses it for his purposes ,but has in himself no evil, as the Bible describes it:

James 1,13+14:

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

1. John 1,5:

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

2. Corinthians 5,19-21:

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

At this and other passages of the Bible God makes it clear, that he has no fellowship with evil, even more that evil is an evidence of the absence of God from his creation. As it automatically gets dark as one turns away from the light, it also automatically gets cold, as one turns away from the source of warmth, so every human creature becomes automatically evil as it turns away from the fellowship with God. So the unbelieving world will be judged for their evil deeds, their very sin is the willful godlessness (compare John 16,5-9; Romans 2,12+3,21-28; and others.). In the opposite, in Pantheism , the evil is not such a power, like in monotheism, that actively comes against the person of God and wants to be separated from him, but the evil here is just a lack upon knowledge or the opportunity to the good. So therein “good “ and “evil” are not accurately distinguished and defined , what seems to appear as evil in a condition of knowledge ,but can also at a higher knowledge level suddenly appear as good. The question, if pantheism or monotheism is the right view of God will be decided also upon the question if God can also be evil, the next chapter will deal with that question. Here finally a few scripture passages, which proof the emphasis, that God is a separated personality from his creation:

a. God is separated from his Creation: Colossians 1,15-17 and Hebrews 11,3.

b. God stands above His Creation ,Deuteronomium 4,12+15; Isaiah 55,8; Exodus 20,4; Acts 17,29; Romans 1,18.

c. God stands outside of the laws of His Creation: Romans 9,19 +20;Isaiah 45,9; 1. Corinthians 1,14-16; Isaiah 40,12-14.

d. God is sovereign and not bound to the behavior of his creatures: Proverbs 16,9; Jeremiah 10,23

e. and many other passages of the whole Holy Scripture- The Bible !

One question finally must be clarified here, if pantheism is mentioned somewhere in the Bible. As he is so totally opposite towards the Christian belief, why then God is not warning us?

At least the thought of reincarnation seemed to be not unknown among people at Jesus time upon the earth, as John writes:

John 9,1-3:

And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him

The disciples of Jesus proclaimed guilt upon a blind born person, that only can be , if one has excluded past punishment, and that is not found anywhere in the Bible , or an embryo which is able to sin , the Word of God says nothing about it!-If he has had the opportunity to sin . Jesus denies it clearly, and also the book of Hebrews says it:

Hebrews 9,24-28:

For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;

For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

That is also very important, because there are still people that claim, the teachings of reincarnation are originally from the Bible!

Aside from this: Why there must be a sacrifice for sin, if I afterwards partly must pay the price for it? No, the sacrifice of Jesus is perfect and more sufficient enough for our blessedness. But where does pantheism appear in the Bible? The nations at the time of the Israelites and also the Romans worshipped only godly personalities! I believe, that the teaching of pantheism very fundamental. It appeared at the beginning of humankind:

Please read at Genesis 3,1-5:

Now the serpent was more subtile than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

In this passage one can find three statements, which lay the foundation of pantheism:

a. „ye shall not surely die“ – there is not really death, no final and irrevocable separation from God

- b. „ye shall be as gods “ – in pantheism an automatic process , which one should come against..
- c. „knowing good and evil “ – the knowledge as the key to perfection

I admit, one can interpret this passage differently. But in my opinion, no one less than Satan himself, the adversary of God and the human beings has laid the foundation to Pantheism. Pantheism is not a human teaching, but a demonic teaching, inspired by Satan, that's why it will grow in significance as the humans distance themselves through sin and pride. And between pantheism and monotheism there is no bridge of understanding,

as more humans wanted to build one , they exclude one another totally. This is the reason why all pantheistic teachings whether in the form of philosophy or as religion were root causes of persecution of Christians. By this, we should pay close attention to pantheistic tendencies inside the church- all those that raise a godly principle to be God. Even if for example one calls it “the power of the Word of God “ or the „power of faith“ or „power of the Holy Spirit“ ! And be in expectancy that a society effected by pantheism also in Christianity and their agents will not have a neutral position, but come against them more and more vehement and in rejection . But God says: even if that will happen the Christian faith will not disappear in humankind:

Amos 8,11+12:

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:

And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it.

While the humankind in the last centuries has focused their view to the north in order to search for God in the „Christian“ religions and philosophies , she looks since the 19th century stronger to the East especially through the fusion of far-eastern teachings with the evolution theory and the atheism of the West. But God's Word says, that this kind of search will not stop the Gospel, but promote him, that why we will experience a very great revival!

How can we know, that God is not evil?

The question if God is evil is not asked very often among circles of believers and that is understandable : one that fears God , then normally does not place any thoughts upon this issue. So the Bible says in Proverbs 9,10:

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

In Isaiah 11,1-2:

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

One that has the Spirit of the Lord – because he or she is born again! – that has a holy fear to call God evil . But one that calls God and his son evil, that person is truly is under the power of the adversary of God, the devil:

Mark 3,22-30:

And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils.

And he called them unto him, and said unto them in parables, How can Satan cast out Satan?

And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

And if Satan rise up against himself, and be divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end.

No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith so ever they shall blaspheme:

But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:

Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit.

1. Corinthians 12,3:

Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed (call him evil) : and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

One that calls God continues evil, or is in fellowship with the devil or under his influence, that person is really in danger to mock the Holy Spirit and by that will never be able to ever get saved! Why also this question in the book of a Christian believer? Well, even if a Christian would never ask such a question, so maybe one time he will be asked! The reason for this mostly is, humans are desperate by the experiences that they make with the sufferings in the world: one that believes in God as the Creator and observes nature and the history of humankind, then he sees all the sufferings, injustice, pain and death. Why innocent children suffer in wars – Why does God allow the raping of little girls- why cancer also effects young children- why Christians must die for their faith: Is God not strong enough or are his interests above those of his children etc. ? The list of questions is long- and the answers, which religions have to offer, every religion has her own answers and Buddhism came into existence by the question: where do the sufferings come from?

I do not intend to add those answers some more, because there are more wise humans than me.

But I want to tackle the question; How can we be so sure, that almighty God, who holds my destiny in his hands, has good intentions and plans for me? The Bible says it so in many passages-but is that true in reality? Even the first appearance of the devil before humankind started with this question!

Genesis 3,1-5:

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

And the woman said unto the serpent we may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Here you see the craftiness of the devil to pull god-believing people into this question! And if one doesn't ask this question, the devil can create a feeling that God is unjust- then being evil!

And that he can't be trusted. The normal human reaction upon this at first to go into distance, and the devil has reached his goal to establish influence. How then can I get to know that God is not evil?

Then first of all the question of what „good,, and „evil“ is must be clarified! Even in the middle ages (Dunctus Scotus, 13th. century and others.) the point has been reached: "What God wants is good, because he wants it that way". God is free in his point of view and his decisions and is independent from what people and systems think about him, then his dealings can't be categorized as good or evil, because who can hold him accountable or judge over him? His dealings must therefore not be bound to our logical understanding. God is sovereign and stands apart from all good and evil, not bound to any moral law. The Bible declares this!

Romans 9,11-23:

For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth; It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. (Malachi 1,2-3): As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. For he saith to Moses (Exodus 33,19), I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh (Exodus 9,16) Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth. Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

An answer, that is difficult to explain to the people of today! Why is it like that? The reason for this is- the arrogance of some of today's contemporary people, which are far from God and the influence of the antichristian spirit, that whispers to them, they are god themselves (compare 2. Thessalonians 2,4) and therefore equal and that they have the right to judge over him and his dealings. Also that God has given the humans a conscience – an inner measure, which is even by sin and the distance to God distorted, he (God) has placed his moral law into the human hearts:

Romans 2,14+15:

For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another)

Where the human being by his conscience does not understand God's dealings, he has the tendency to judge this dealing and also the author of it, by this he gets insane with God

To be honest: That God stands apart of good and evil, we must accept- even we do not feel well about it! Before such a God, one has really a qualified reason to fear him, and the Bible also shows this reality (compare Hebrews 10,31, 12,29 and others)

Once again the question: „, how do we know, that God is not evil“- with the limitation: asked with our human and limited sight and from my own selfish, egoistic point of view- or- to even express it in better way: how do we know, that God even by all sufferings in the world has good intentions and plans for us? Why God allows the evil- if one understands „evil“ in the sense, that something does not support us and Creation, but hinders and destroys us? IS God my friend, from whom I benefit or my enemy, that harms me?

A God, who allows injustice and evil- even if he cares, by placing for example disability upon small children:- is:

- not strong enough to prevent it-also is not really God, because he is not almighty.#
- unconcerned about his creation, also not a loving God
- has an evil personality as opponent, with whom he fights for the dominance in his creation, therefore is not almighty, but only “God in Heaven”
- arranges himself with evil like two players on a chess board. thus two “gods” exist, one good and one evil, and because the “good god” does not fight against the “evil god”, he is unconcerned about his creation and therefore evil himself - or God is stronger than his evil counterpart and tolerates him. Thus he is also evil himself, because he delivers his creation to the devil. One that reads the Book of Job only superficially must come to the conclusion; God Challenges the devil to let Job suffer, because he is a god-fearing person, he uses the little Job in order to make a bet! (Job 1,6-2,10).(That God uses the devil in order to uncover Job's real motives for his piety and to lead him from hypocrisy to the true fear of God can only be recognized only by the time in the text of this book)
- is evil and good at the same time – so god and the devil in one person, one god with two different characters, that seemingly contradict one another, in reality they are playing „good cop and evil (bad) cop“ and by that to „train to freedom“ the human being Such a God would be unpredictable, one would be a randomly delivered to his “moods”! He could promise us Heaven, if one keeps his commandments and afterwards, even we did all our efforts throw us into hell and also to demand us to be thankful for it.

Or at random, without moral principles chosen, who will enter heaven or not (a false understanding of predestination can lead to such a wrong picture of God). Such a God, which is light and dark, good and evil mixed in his character –is even more evil- because cunning- as a devil through and through, with whom one knows what one can expect from, with one knows what he is facing. A religion, which holds such an image of God, has for sure a demonic background, and also in Satanism the devil is often as the dark, but "needful side" of God portrait. Through such an image of God every consciousness of injustice is relativized and the conscience destroyed. That's why the Bible warns really, not to name good and evil unclearly:

Isaiah 5,20:

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

If God really loves us, as the Bible declares it, so God must reveal himself more again and again, then it is not of his will that we fall into uncertainty because of him, and by that we think he is evil, does he not reveal himself, so it seems he is unconcerned about us. So then he is evil and our enemy, because he doesn't care about us!

If God is not almighty or doesn't care about our wellbeing or is not reliable in his talking and dealings, then we are truly lost! Every faith and every service is then useless and without sense.

Then it doesn't benefit to hope of an eternity, then she (eternity) if she really exists-who knows if God plays a game in that ways? –will be terrible. It is even better than to live one at the time and enjoy it and not thinking about what will be inevitable for us all human beings! If God is evil and therefore our enemy, or has a pact with the devil- then everything will be senseless!

For us human beings it is most important, what exists in time and eternity, that

- a). God reveals himself, who he is and what he wants. Only then if he cares for us, then he loves us!
- b. God is reliable in his attitudes. Only if he is reliable, then he loves us.
- c. God is almighty, only if he is, then he is able to protect us eventually from evil and the devil, so we totally can deliver ourselves into his hands, otherwise we depend more or less upon ourselves.
- d. God hasn't made a pact with evil or has't made peace. Only if He and evil are total oppositional and enemies to one another, we can trust, that God will not deliver us to evil.
- e. God and evil are not one being, meaning good and evil alike, only if he deals with us unselfish, then he loves us

How can we find answers upon these questions?

- a. Does God show himself to humans like He is and does he reveal clearly what he wants from them and what are his plans? Every believer, that keeps the Word of God, will clearly admit, but how do these believers in fact know that one can trust in a four thousand year old book, which has been written by man? For this question I will point forward two chapters ahead. God has left all human beings clear signs, that he will reveal himself and make himself known:

Acts 14,14-17:

Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways. Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

„God has let himself not be unproven“ – That means , he has given every human the opportunity to recognize him, that he really exists – every human has an anticipation of eternity in his heart (see. Ecclesiastes 3,11). And everybody who desires, will be able to recognize his greatness and omniscience in Creation:

Romans 1,19+20:

Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse

Namely, that she, the Creation is ordered up to the tiny detail, and that a sympathically power stands behind it, which cares, that life even through all misery and evil, that is found even in Creation. There , where continually the law of the strongest rules, that has not faded where all creatures can live beside one another even they are eating and get eaten , because God has prepared a refuge place . So , it's not even „normal“, that humans can't believe in a god; atheism must be taught to them at first ! Until that time of reconnaissance this philosophy was almost unknown, even godless people ever existed (compare Psalms 10,3+4; 14,1 and other.) But in general people tend to image a god after their own standards, as not to believe in any god , especially in times of misery. Even to the human being his moral concepts are not totally unknown- there God has granted a certain insight, so that the human being – in comparison to the animal is a very “moral” being.

Romans 2,14+15:

For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.

About what is good and what evil humans have ever quarreled, but even the worst evil-doer is generally on search for an alibi for his mindset and his deeds. In order to move someone to an evil deed, one must clarify to that person that it is in fact good and justified, what he does.

So for example self-love (egoism) is morally justified and portrayed as necessary! So one can clearly recognize, that God has given everyone an opportunity, to get to know him, and that he even wants to make himself known in order to show us his plans and intentions. That became completely reality as God himself became man:

Philippians 2,6+7:

*Who (Jesus), being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:*

In Jesus Christ God became man, so that we can meet him „eye to eye“! More God can't do for the human being in order to show himself to them and how much he cares. And through the Holy Spirit his children can experience, that God has taken residence in them. Much more closer God can't come to us! John 1,12-14:

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 14,15-18+23:

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.

Also God searches for us and wants to meet us in a way, which goes beyond of what we can imagine. And even one, that doesn't know Jesus Christ is able to recognize, that there is a just and good-willing God . Therefore God loves us- by this he shows, that we are not unconcerned to him!

But: Is God still active in his Creation today-or has he drawn back from the world and let the things run their way? And does he still work as in the times of the Apostles or do we have to live with the idea that we live in a different timeframe of salvific history. Where God does not speak directly to us and doesn't work any wonders anymore? The thought pattern , which lays behind this is: „the Scriptures can't be true in the points where she talks about the fact , that wonders still happen , even we don't see them“ . That this kind of thinking will increase in the future is described in the Bible :

1.Peter 3,3+4:

Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

Jesus doesn't return in a literal sense in order to intervene –God doesn't intervene nowadays. The mindset, that God has created once the World, but has withdrawn himself from his people throughout history, that is a lie of the end-times, brought up by „mockers“, those are people „that sit in the counsel of the wicked“(Psalms 1.1), that believe in nothing and none or exalt the wisdom of this world over the counsel of God's Word. A person that believes in God and lives in a relationship with him knows the difference, and recognizes and experiences God's protection in multiple ways in Creation and his intervention personal life, as in the history of the nations!

1. John 3,1:

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

Even in the Old Testament God intended to be the provider and protector of Israel, in the New Testament he is even more-HE is our Father, that loves us, protects us, provides for us and disciplines us. If God is good he must reveal himself to us – but he does it thousand times more- He is adopting us!

b. Now let us come to the second question: Is God reliable in his deeds and his thinking towards us? Because we live in a relationship with God, but a one sided relationship: He isn't indeed dependent upon us, but we are totally delivered into his hands. The foundation of any functioning and even enjoyable relationship is: that the one partner can totally rely and trust upon the other partner, and that means his behavior is totally reliable, not even once like this and another time different again! If he is not able to do so, so the other part is evil- in this case God! In order to research this fact, here now again a passage of the Scripture of the Bible:

Exodus 3,1-14:

Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain. And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

This text of the Bible contains now a few very important statements about the reliability of God. First of all it's obvious, that God, who showed himself to Moses, showed interest in him.

He made the first step and revealed himself! Even today it is like that: Since the days of Adam, as God had been searching after the human being, he, the human has hidden himself from God (Genesis 3,8-10) until today he (God) does the first step and is waiting upon our reaction: John 6,44:

No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Acts 16,14:

And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

Secondly God shares with Moses, what are his plans with him is, He that starts to establish a relationship with the human being. Thirdly, but the most important is, that God introduces himself and shows his character in a for us a very strange way: He calls himself: I will be the one I want to be, more clearly now: I am, the I am. That is now really an irritating self portrait, isn't it? We in God's position would say: „I am the Almighty“ or, „I am Love“ or „I am the Truth“, For God it seems at first not so important. He goes deeper in the revelation of himself, because he mentions the very foundation of a relationship: „I will be the one, I want to be“, in other words: You can rely upon me, because I am authentic, and I never change“. So he also declares in Numbers 23,19:

God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

and in Hebrews 13,8:

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Like in Revelations 19,11:

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Truth is consistency in being-Faithfulness is consistency in doing. God must be **true** and **faithful**, otherwise he is unpredictable in his behavior towards us and therefore evil!

The Bible speaks about the fact that God is faithful and true, but who says that she (the Bible) is right? Where can we find the character and attributes of God? In Romans 1,20 it says, that God in his invisible being can be recognized clearly through his creation; Where can we find his consistency in his being and doing in creation? The answer is found in the natural laws of the physics, chemistry, biology etc., because they are extremely reliable and constant! For ages the human being works with these laws, they have never changed. And the co-relation between those laws are precisely defined, so they became the foundation of science, so that the results of science must be reproducible in order to be approved. Even in areas, where classical natural laws are not counted anymore, like in atom and astrophysics, still they found out there are other laws, but also they work consistently like in classical physics- even they are rarely explained but can be only be described. The whole nature gives testimony with his processes about a very deeply reliable Creator, who is reliable, even if in most cases one does not understand his workings, a Creator, that loves us and that he is Love, because he is reliable! Spiritism and Occultism

Destroy that basic sense of trust into the reliability of the natural laws, and indirectly also the faith (trust) in the reliability of God.

A person that has grown up in such environment and has made certain experiences, that person is deeply doubtful towards God and has real difficulties, to trust in God. But God's faithfulness and consistency can be experienced in a deeper measure as one entrusts himself daily anew into God's hands:

Hebrews 11,1:

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

James 1,22-25:

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Through a life of faith, were one dares to surrender himself to the truth and faithfulness of God, only there can grow trust in God and the love of God for truth in us, his children can be experienced!

c. The third question, which should be asked, if one wants to trust upon God is that: Is HE really God, which means: Almighty? One that believes in a Creator-God, would not doubt, that it is possible for him to create all things and to determine how he wants it, like an architect that can build a house like he wants and desires it as planned, as long as no one greater limits him with laws and regulations, how he has to build and there is no one greater than God, not even one! As God goes beyond natural laws as it seems to make sense to him and as he works miracles, to believe in that is not difficult: the difficulties start there, were God is forced to eventually deal opposite to his own order! Is God able to create a stone, whom he is not able to lift up by himself? Two believers are neighbors, both pray; one prays for rain, the other prays for dry weather. Whose prayer gets an answer? He has given us a free will and the freedom to sin- is he then able to save us from Hell, as he promises or only to the point we are willing to cooperate with him?

Are we finally responsible for our own salvation and our protection according to the german proverb: "Help yourself, then God will help you"? Sind wir dadurch letztendlich selbst für unser Heil und unseren Schutz verantwortlich nach dem Schlagwort „helf dir selbst, dann hilft dir auch Gott“?

This question has two hooks: They limit God upon the human mind, that is connected to logic, and by that we make God an idol, a super dimensional human being. The Bible says in Deuteronomy 4,12+23:

And the LORD spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only ye heard a voice. Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of anything, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee.

Isaiah 55,8+9:

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

One that wants to press God into the laws of logic or tries to understand his dealings or promises with his own mind and understanding, he deals in a very naive and presumptuous manner! The predestination and legal culpability of the human being can never be understood with the mind, even, even the word „eternity“. We must accept that there are existing dimensions that are one, in the past, the present and the future, areas where our mind is totally worthless and useless!

John 8,58:

*Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, **I am**. Ephesians 2,10: For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

Proverbs 8,22-24

The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water.

God's wisdom is from eternity, but was born! One can experience that if a person tries to seek God with his mind "tries" to understand God, then God withdraws from that person. The theology of the first centuries after Christ has brought up important definitions – So the teaching of Godhead of Jesus Christ could be defended against the teachings of Arianism – but finally has failed, because it has tried to comprehend the Trinity of God, the secret of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit by using the mind. So they tried to create an image of God, so also the mind can worship. But there the human being fails and also the Christian believer. God does not allow it to be captured into the human mind. That God is almighty is described in the way in the book of Jeremiah 32,26-27:

Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying, Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there anything too hard for me?

Therein one only can believe, which is withdrawn from our mind. But this faith, which according to God's promises does not hesitate to request even it doesn't seem logical, but asks and holds on to His great promises:

Hebrews 11,1+2:

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Who else also – as Christian! – wants to know, if God is really the Almighty in his life, then he shall surrender himself totally and trust him by faith in everything, then only he will experience it.

d. Now we are reaching the fourth question: Is God really the „Lord in his house of Creation“– or must he share his domain with the evil? One that observes nature must finally come to the conclusion, because summer and winter, becoming and fading, life and death continually change and are in a fight with one another. At all the fights of the strong with the weak, the good with the evil in the living nature, even in the history of the nations are a continually waving to and fro, where there is never a clear and final victor. So one must conclude that like all religions believe it, that even the Creator God must have an opponent, that is equal or even strong enough to withdraw his dominion in some territories, so the world is divided into two spheres of influence: one of God and one of his opponent, the devil.

And the responsibility of the human being is it to move and stay in the sphere and domain of the Good and not to be pulled into the domain of the Evil, were God is limited to help one out. This kind of view of the power of God shares the devil in the Bible described in

Luke 4,5-8:

“And the devil taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. “

Satan claims to have received the world from God. God and he share the dominion of world and even God and his Son of God Jesus Christ have to keep this agreement. Of almost all religions also a part of christianity believes this, and as a result they feel called towards „spiritual warfare“ to claim back the ruler ship that has been lost through Adam’s sin- As God entrusted to Adam the dominion over his Creation, so Adam lost it to Satan because he committed himself to sin- the lost part of Creation has taken back including the unsaved humanity into the Creator’s hand. But what does the Bible state about this claims ?

Psalms 24,1:

The earth is the LORD', and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Romans 8,38-39:

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord

Revelations 1,8:

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Revelations 1,17+18:

Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Also the Bible says it clearly, God has never given up his claim of dominion over the world and the human beings upon it, he is also able to defend it against the devil! One can see it in the story of the temptation of Jesus, that the “two domain teaching “ is a lie directly from the mouth of Satan and so it can be found in many demonically inspired religions , for example in the “Gnosis” and her modern branches.

Those religions make the humans finally to become “like gods” of the Universe , because they are the ones that by free will decision are able to commit to evil and good, and so become „ the tip of the scales“.

Not all humans believe the Bible. But also through the nature, the human is able to recognize, that God remained to be the Lord of his Creation and that also Satan is not able to enforce his will upon God!. Again another constant value of the existence of the world and its natural laws, that proof, that the power of God must be stronger as the power of evil. This evil power has only the goal to destroy God’s Creation and leave “ chaos” and “tohuwabohu”(Hebrew word for Chaos) (see Genesis 1,1+2).

The death is continues at work through the process of entropy, the destruction of order- the order of Creation does never increase by itself, but always decreases-But this decline of order leads finally into death, it happens only through an organized process ,not unpredictable nor spontaneous! So all decline processes whether it be in alive nature or in atomic physics are subject to strict laws, the natural laws don't stop death but control its limits. There must exist a power, that allow death and decay, but also controls it and therefore is superior towards all destructive and the evil and overrules it!

Psalms 75,3:

The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved: I bear up the pillars of it. Selah.

Job 38,8-11:

Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb?

When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it,

And brake up for it my decreed place , and set bars and doors, And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?

And also in the history of humankind it has been proven, that the evil has shown up and has suppressed justice, law, faith and love for a certain period of time or even erased it. But finally the evil and lawlessness always found their judge and even have been overcome by seemingly weaker , but morally higher standing nations and groups of society , one may think of the persecution of Christians in the roman empire or the end of the communist regime in East Europe . The truth that even "soft water defeats the hard stone" belongs to the wisdom of all nations. And the rich and forms of society, that have been founded upon sin or have dedicated to it , have never persisted for a long time .

Psalms 37,32-38:

The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him. The LORD will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged. Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it . I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found. Mark the perfect man , and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace. But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off.

So would God and the Evil be equally strong, so there would be no consist value in the existence of nature and its laws, again and again the creation plan of God would be crossed by the "chaotic" dealings of the devil. Therefore no reliability upon physical, chemical and biological processes would be the result.

But that can't be observed in nature, it can only be observed there, where the human being is getting involved by the practice of witchcraft and the worship of demons as he surrenders himself into the domain of the devil. That's why occultism is so „fascinating“-of so scaring for those that have been captured in it and now are under the influence of the evil!

Only the question has to be clarified, how far the power of evil has influence in the life of humans especially for Christians – how far God allows the evil and its domain to take effect upon his Creation and his (God's) domain?

This question can only be answered through the Bible alone, even that other religions and philosophies of this world have also godly insights, but have been cheated and lied to in important and decisive questions by the Satan. What does the Word of God say about the authority of the devil? Let the Apostle John speak:

John 12,31:

Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

John 16,7-11:

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

The scriptures name the devil also a „prince“- but a doomed prince. What now is a prince?

If a king has an expanded kingdom, then it is impossible for him to rule alone, he whether needs officers, that are faithfully committed to him and so are paid by him due to their labor and faithfulness – but that is only possible, if his kingdom is wealthy and a police and military force exists to observe the orders and laws of the king. Where this is not possible, then therefore people faithfully committed to the king will „entrusted“ with ground, land and people by the king so they get riches and authority over a certain region. This people are required to keep the laws of the king and must take care that the citizens will respect them –they have also the right As “subordinated-kings” to demand taxes for themselves and establish and decree laws of order, as long as they are nit against the laws of the king or limit his power and income. They are also required to pay taxes to the king and help him establish a solid authority and government- and in the case of war as the land and central government will be attacked to fight for the king with all available methods and arsenal. As the condition of authority between the princes and the king is solid, so none of the princes will dare to fight against the king, then the system works. Always as the authority of the king is weakened and decreases, then the princes in their territories can rise up and become little “wren” (“kings upon fences”) that stand above the law and justice of the king, they then establish their own laws, eventually make covenants against their own king and let him become poor financially and also militarily. Then only by name he will be called king, but in fact has become only a recipient of the orders of the princes. As a king has enough authority to establish the rule and laws against his princes, then all citizens of the domain of the princes and all recipients of order are demanded obedience towards the king. Wherein the pressure through the princes weight more heavy upon the citizens, then from the king living far away.

Only one group is free from the authority of the princes, unless they are not bowing by free will or out of fear or because of certain advantages under the authority of the princes, those of the kingly officers, that in former times for the reason of reliability, mostly been members of the kingly family, had possessions:

Those alone are subject to the reign of the king and through their parentage protected from the influence of the princes. This also is the case if the king has conflict with the princes, but he does not dare to attack the king due to lack of authority.

This persons then have the same position as diplomats of an hostile nation: one does not dare to do something against them, but tries to isolate them and eventually pull them to one side.

With this the position of Satan in the world and towards us Christians is described quite well I think! The end of Satan's domain will come, as the Bible describes it also: Matthew 21,33-41:
Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country: And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, they will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, this is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons.

Jesus has told this parable to the Jewish government representatives, but I also believe it fits also to the prince of the world!

How was it with the „prince of the world“? The Bible tells us, that he also once was king, but because of his unfaithfulness has been cast out by God (see Ezekiel 28, 11-19). But also the book of Job, that even then he kept the right to strive through the earth in order to have influence upon the human race:

Job 1,6-12:

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?

Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

Job 2,1-7:

Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD.

And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.

And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life. So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

In this two passages are many important information about the authority of Satan outlined:

1. Satan went “*from going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it*” - meaning He is not omnipresent like God (see Psalms 139)! That means, he in his dealings depends upon authority structures, that are as those of human beings:

Ephesians 6,12:

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Revelation 2,13:

I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

The devil needs-and has! also places , where his thrones are”, that means, where he is most powerful and from where he can influence other territories. On the opposite to God , from whom we already know, that the whole earth belongs to him and that He is omnipresent (see Psalms 139).Also he needs subordinates , that rule over certain territories, like it is described in the book of Daniel .

Daniel 10,12-13+20:

Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. 20 Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? And now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.

So the believers are taken in to a fight between the angels of Heaven and those of hell, even it was already made basically a decision at Calvary (see Colossians 2,15) , still it prolongs until Jesus return in glory .

2. Satan observes the human beings very accurate, he knows them, especially the children of God , more then they know themselves (see Acts 19,13-16). Why then he doesn't attack them immediately and forces them under his dominion?

Well ,he can accuse them day and night before God, and so try to convince God to let righteousness rule and so punish the human beings (compare Rev. 12,10) – but without God's allowance he can't do anything! So also the following scripture passages explain this truth:

Amos 3,6:

Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done it ?

Isaiah 45,5-7:

I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.

I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things .

Satan has power over people like a prince, but this power has been given to him by God, also he(Satan) can only exercise it by God's approval. Even the temptation to sin is only allowed only if God allows it (compare 2. Samuel 24,1 – 1. Chronicles 21,1! God does not tempt us to evil that's what James 1,13 says, but our own desires do it, but we should ask God according to Matthew 6:13 not to be let into temptation !

So what gives him the right to do so much evil among human beings, as the apostle Paul calls him the "god of this world" (see 2, Cor 4,4)?

Ephesians 2,1-6:

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

It is nothing else as only the sins, and first and foremost the first of all sins, the conscious turning away from God-that gives Satan the right, to enforce his will upon human beings (see. John 8,24: *Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye-* Romans 6,16). And only through the salvation, the reception of the substitute sacrificial death of Jesus Christ we can get delivered and set free from the tyranny of the devil:

Colossians 1,13+14:

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son .In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins

But also Christians can come in under the tyranny of the devil for a certain period of time – because they distance themselves from God , believe the lies of the devil and remain in sin:

2.Timothy 2,24-26:

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

So, one that is not redeemed is forced to sin-one that is redeemed, is able to sin, but also must eventually bear the consequences of his\her sin!

However, God has implemented an „emergency break“ in case that the sinful life of a Christian could cost him eternity:

1. Corinthians 11,29-32:

For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

Hebrews 12,7-10:

If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

God promises, that none of his children will perish (see scripture passages in John 3,16; 5,24; 10,28; 11,26, 1. Joh 5,18); but eventually for the cost of their earthly health and lives!

Also: The right of the devil to have influence upon humans depends upon their attitude: One that sins, must serve the devil (see Genesis 4,7). Besides that even for us Christians it is not advisable to attack the devil by self-will and easily! The Letter of Jude talks about such people who take it lightly and without God to attack Satan:

Jude 8-10:

Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities. Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

Even Jude talks about false teachers in this connection, those who aren't redeemed, one should not dare to do a commission which God has not confirmed. God would not withdraw his hand from us, but even though could allow things that would have severe consequences for us, as described in Acts 19,13-16. One that acts inside the will of God for example as he casts out demons by faith (Romans 14,23!), then that person has nothing to fear (Luke 10,19)

God opens up great possibilities for Christians to stand beside persons that are far from God: As we repent on behalf of them and ask God to help them even they are far from God! Luke 11,5-8:

And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves;

For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him?

And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.

I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.

Between God and unredeemed people is a wall of enmity; (see. Ephesians 2,14), that can't be penetrated through, and by this wall they are in the hand of the devil. By the detour of intercession through the children of God, God can still remain just and still do let them see good things (see. Mt 5,45); and only then in eternity it will be made known which blessings have been poured out through the hated and despised Christians to their oppressors!

As the world through their distance from God are delivered and enslaved by the hands of the devil-Wouldn't it be good, if we would use our God-given authority:

Luke 10,19:

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

In order to drive him away, where he has blinded the senses of the people, so they would be able to "see the glorious light of the Gospel" (2. Corinthians 4,3+4)? Are we not able to cause revival among the people as we drive out the devil from a certain region- through intercession or by casting him out in the name of Jesus? Why this is not mentioned in the Bible! Well, as one possesses this mindset, then he exchanges the cause and the effect(result):

John 3,19-21:

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

The people are not unable, to turn to God and get saved, because the devil holds them back, even demon-possessed persons could come to Jesus and the devil was not able to hinder them (see Mark 5,5 and others.!). No, because they don't want God, they must merry the devil, because they don't want to let go of their sins, they love the devil more than God and want to fellowship with him in hell then to be with God in heaven! That's why God is not able to save someone, that doesn't want to be saved, but this means if a person withdraws himself and lives in distance to God then this human comes under the authority and domain of the devil and even God is not able to stop him. Why then God has allowed the devil and has planted the tree of temptation in the Garden of Eden?

Romans 5,13:

For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

If God would have kept the devil in distance to the humans, then they never would have had the opportunity to sin, and thereby openly rebel against God. In this case their rebellion never would have been revealed. They never would have then recognized their need for salvation and redemption. as a result they never would have been happy in heaven, like the older son in the parable of the „lost son“.

e. The fifth question, that we have asked is: Who says to us: Could it be that God has made already peace with the evil –Satan? Then if God is seemingly using the devil for some good- as in the drama of the German author Goethe „The Faust“ is described as the „power, that always wants the bad and evil, but still causes good”-so it can be, that God plays a big game with us , wherein he allows the devil to live in order to achieve his goals and purposes, as it seems to be the case in the book of Job:

Job 1,6-12 und 2,1-7: see above!

This would mean for us , that God would deliver us into the hands of the devil in order to achieve his purposes and thereby accept the evil, destruction and the suffering of his created human beings , he then would act very selfishly and would not really be a loving God. Because the Bible describes in 1. Corinthians 13,5 that the love “*doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil* . As God would have made peace with the devil and playing poker over his Creation and the world, then he would also be as evil as the devil- A sadist , that would have made a great Creation in order to play with her suffering .

Well, God claims for himself to be the God of Love (compare 1. John 4,16), so a good and an evil domain never could exist beside one another , because the Good has the passion to help the victims of evil , only then he wouldn't be good; One that spins around himself even other people are dependent upon him ,then his insensibility is also evil ! But the God of the Bible is not like that because:

1. Timothy 2,3+4:

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

The evil tries to enslave their victims (compare John 10,10 und 9,44), in order to secure his domain, but also tries to prevent the intervention of the Good in order to conserve its own existence. A good God and an evil devil thereby never can exist alongside one another peacefully! Each one of both has the goal to fight the opposite party and finally destroy him . As we are already found out that God is the stronger one, then we can conclude, that the evil will not be left unpunished and one day, the evil will lose his influence upon Creation, as the Bible also describes it:

Revelation 12,10:

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

Revelation 21,3-7:

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son

How can one recognize, that God is really able to live alongside with the evil without compromise in enmity with the power of evil?

Well, every evil has its root in sin, which causes separation from God. Because if one wants to live in harmony with God, whether human or angel, does no evil (see 1. John 5,18), because he is under the leading and headship of God –one that makes himself independent from God and his will , is only able to do evil things ! The reason for this , that a from God separated being sooner or later does destructive things , even he doesn't want to do it , because this being is not almighty and all-knowing ! A good and great example is the son of David Absalom in 2. Samuel 16, 21-22: He has come and rebelled against his own father, because he did not interfere against the sexual sin of his brother and by this also had to sin, because of the retaining of power. And even one makes himself independent from God , then has to deal destructive to creation, because as one is under the influence of us is nor able to do the same as God. Even the smallest sin grows, as one allows her to continue into eternity to the sin of the antichrist:

Isaiah 14, 12-15:

For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into Heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit!

Satan's temptation, that is around to whisper into the humans the lie to be as good as him even they are separated from God (Genesis 3,4+5) is therefore the most effective method in order to really become evil! If God is good and loves his creation unconditionally, then he has to preserve them, so on the long-run even living in separation from him, thy still can live on in all eternity . Then God has to set an end to all evil. And he really does it!

Genesis 3,22-24:

And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever:

Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the Garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Romans 6,23:

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

It is the death, that protects the creation and humans to let God continue in the separations until his creation is totally destroyed ,in the sense of bringing it back into „total chaos“ ! That is in fact one of the reasons, why God is not allowing and tolerating any little sin in Heaven: That would change Heaven throughout eternity into hell!

As one looks to the world arround him , sees and recognizes that it she is subject to death , even if humans always tried to create and build things to last for eternity: until now the time has let them perish and fade away . Yes, because of sin death has entered into Creation (Romans 5,12). Through that God shows that he is making no compromise with even a little sin.

It is even like that, that as one does evil or gives way to it, then carries the seed of self-destruction inside himself. And as a kingdom in the history has been more brutal and lawless, it always has been destroyed and faded very fast. Even the peaceful land –turtle lives longer than the lion, the wolf or the crocodile. That means to our question: Even it seems that God tolerates evil, one day the Day of Judgement will come – in the small and little measure of the individual or in the greater measure at the end of time –as all evil will be removed from Creation by God:

Galatians 6,7+8:

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Habakuk 2,5-7:

Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people: Shall not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him, and say, Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his! how long? and to him that ladeth himself with thick clay! Shall they not rise up suddenly that shall bite thee, and awake that shall vex thee, and thou shalt be for booties unto them?

John 5,28+29:

Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

The fact, that God is not tolerating any sin in all eternity, then he can't let any human enter into Heaven even he/she is very religious, devoted and honorable, because not any human is without sin (Romans 3,23). And because every sin enslaves the human to repeat it time and time again (see John 8,14). That being "independent from God" has caused the misery to start once! So there is also the opportunity for us to enter into Heaven: We must submit our life totally to the lordship of God and must God for his help to do it:

John 3,36:

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 5,24:

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

f. Now, we reach to the last question, that we asked in order to find out, if God maybe is evil and bad towards us: Who says, that God isn't good and bad alike –meaning unpredictable? That he is maybe a good God and an evil devil in one person? Once like this, the other time the opposite?

That God and the devil from our point of view seem to be contrary and in reality, they are subordinated gods, over which a superior power rules, for that power good and evil are relative? here we get in touch with Pantheism, and in reality those images of God have mostly eastern influences, but in Pantheism this kind of problem can't be solved, there we are trapped. Well, how can we explore, if God was ever and always good, reliable good and ever will be good, as the Bible tells us about the son of God Jesus Christ?

Hebrews 13,8:

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

As we saw it above, good and evil can never be unified, but they exclude one another in their existence! As it's true, that a good and loving God can never compromise and allow evil and the destructive as more or less God can inhabit good and evil one person. Jesus does a statement in: Luke 11,14-18:

*And he was casting out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass, when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake; and the people wondered. But some of them said, He casteth out devils through Beelzebub the chief of the devils. And others, tempting him, sought of him a sign from heaven. But he, knowing their thoughts, said unto them, Every kingdom **divided against itself** is brought to desolation; and **a house divided against a house falleth**. If Satan also be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom **stand**? Because ye say that I cast out devils through Beelzebub.*

It is mentioned in that scripture passage: what is in discord in itself it will be in desolation (chaos!) and is on the long run not able to exercise power! Would God be good and evil alike, then his Creation could not endure, so God would be divided in himself and also his creation work: We would be able to recognize an extinction and recreation, that are not built upon one another. Beside that fact, he would not be almighty, because he would stand in his own ways and plans.

Now, one is able to see the consistency of the natural laws and their standards, which follow God's dealings, at least within our understandable timeframe. That he even is unsurpassed in his continuity as the Bible declares it in Numbers 23,19:

God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Therefore we can exclude out of the observation of His Creation, that God is evil and good at the same time! As it is also stated in 1. John 1,5:

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

How is it, that one asks such a question? Well, it is the fact of the misery in the world, that a good God allows, even he could prevent it, because he is stronger than his adversary. Why He created the world to experience suffering, if it is in his capability to do it in another way? Why He let his Creation suffer, if he loves it?

The second question is: Why a loving God hasn't allowed superiority over their own „being“? Even the devil **must** exist, the ultimate freedom is it to exist independently from God-or even exterminate himself. We will see that this both questions are co-relating with one another. I will start with the second question first:

One may begin eventually to doubt about God's goodness and selflessness as one recognizes, that none of his creation has the total superiority over his own „being“ : As said the human being lives forever , whether in heaven or hell, and even the devil **must** exist would God have left his created beings into liberty, then he must have granted them the right to exist totally independent from him , or even allowed them to exterminate themselves, if they like to do it. Both options have been denied to the human beings by God! Why it is like that will be clarified later on. Like in the parable of the two sons in Luke 15 the humans experience it: Both sons, the younger and the older one must recognize , that they can't exist without the father. So one son returns humbly and with a repentant heart, the older son is surrendering himself and with gnashing teeth into his destiny. So also the disciples of Jesus had to realize that in:

John 6,66-69:

From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

The human has no choice between a life with and without God – only between a life with God or against God! That's why our love towards him upon the earth is never unselfish

1.John 4,9+10:

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

We are illustrated like a princess, who has to get married with a prince of a foreign country. We can agree to that offer , to make the best out of it (see Psalms 45,11-17!) and by that become the queen – or become rebellious , and run away from the king's son and loose everything , that has been granted to us since our royal birth .Also that God allows it that we can live without him in eternity- that already is love!

It is like this, that not any created being of the Universe ever is able to free himself from the rulership of God! It is not able to live without God, if it would be possible, then he must be God himself, but God does not tolerate it:

Isaiah 43,10-13:

Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour.

I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God.

Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it?

And – It is not possible to take away the existence himself, to exterminate himself , to set his consciousness out of operation , even there God has denied him the possibility to do so!

Revelation 20,10-15:

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

As the thing are like that, why then God takes himself time to be love (1. John 4,16)? What kind of love is that, that offers only the alternative between the acceptance or rejection of that relationship and animosity, without offering the possibility to decide freely for him or against him? Can such a person be trust-worthy, or is God a sadist, that allows us only the choice between a golden cage or one made of iron? (I apologize to all, for whom that kind of description is too extreme, because they have experienced the love of God, but there are still persons that are tormented by this kind of thoughts!) How can we find an answer upon this question? Outside of godly revelation that is impossible –God must answer this by himself to us. And he has done it, and exactly in the Bible! Here we find the answer upon this question. The most accurate point from a being , that is far superior to me and that I'm never will be able to comprehend , is the same like in a relationship, that every human once in his life has experienced: **Children** will never be able and are not able to fully understand the behavior of their parents. Even as the parents are well advised to explain their behavior as much as possible in order not to burden the trust relationship to the child – it will not always be possible. Even then the small children trust their parents very much, that they trust them in everything. The reason for that reality is, they never doubt upon the unselfish love of their parents , no child has fear that tomorrow it will not be fed anymore or the parents are not alive anymore (except, they have really experienced that!) Now the Bible says, that we Christians are children of God!

1. John 3,1:

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

How is it then with the parents? Why they don't love their children not so deeply, that they are willing to die for them, especially the mothers? I believe the reason is, they see their children as part of themselves, as their own flesh and blood . And God sees us humans also like that!

Genesis 1,26+27:

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Also God sees himself, as he looks upon us! He identifies himself with us, as a father and mother as they look upon their own child. As parents see their child suffer, then they suffer more as their child. A child screams very quickly and loud, as it is hurt and experiences pain, but has also very quickly forgotten the pain, as he is gone. The parents blame themselves afterwards, why it has happened?

John 16,27:

For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

Isaiah 66,13:

As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

In comparison to the earthly parents God feels that pain more intensely- because he lives inside us by the Holy Spirit:

John 14,23:

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

God feels the joy and pain inside us very intensive, like we do experience it; would he then do evil towards us, so he would torment himself! Compare Ephesians 5,28-30, as God compares the church to the woman as it says:

So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

And as we are created in his image and are similar to him, we then can conclude, what hurts us, also hurts him and is not a joy for him too. Would he harm us and do evil towards us, then he would harm himself and would be devided in his ruler ship and his Creation would not remain to exist!

Isaiah 43,1-4:

But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee.

Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.

God sees us Christians as his own and his precious possession that he loves deeply. Why then he should have evil intentions towards us?

The last argument for God's love towards us humans is, without holding the claim of completeness, is the most known:

John 3,16:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

I consciously have added the two following sentences: Herein God's love is shown, that he let his own son suffer for us, and even has suffered himself within him (Jesus) (compare. 2. Corinthians 5,19!) – There is the claim of God according to his own standards. Both is part of God's personality.

Finally-God loves his Creation and that means also: all human beings!- Because He is love:

1. John 4,8:

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

As God is love- if this is the core of his personality, as the core of the personality of a greedy person is his desire for riches –as he isn't able to do any different than love, and also impartial his friends and his enemies alike

Matthew 5,44+45:

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

...then one can conclude, that there is no other possibility for us human beings, as the one that God has appointed for us, even we don't understand it, why God Has not granted us the possibility of non-existence or a live as a little god in our own universe. As we once know: even what happens, God has good intentions and thoughts towards us –then we are able to continue searching in peace for answers!

I will not claim and boast to have found answers, but will only share some thoughts ; if they are right or wrong the reader may discern by himself . Well then: Why has God, that loves us, not given us the liberty to decide by ourselves if we want to live with or without him? Here now to scripture passages:

1.John 3,2:

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

John 10,34+35:

Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?

If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;

God, as the sovereignty Creator, from the beginning of time has made the decision to create an opposite being, that reflects him, and also he decided that these being will be like him one day! That is only possible as we are with him! If not then he would create a myriad of new devils, the drama of the fall of Lucifer would repeat itself (see Ezekiel 28,11-17).Why? Because two God's – almighty, omnipresent, all-knowing etc.- are not existing, even if they would not be equally powerful like him , the Heaven would become hell with so many gods. God planed that we remain in our own personality The Trinity of God is a secret, that we are not able to uncover, even then we are raised up with Christ as our head and surety of our loyalty to a similar position! (compare. 1. Corinthians 12.27 and others.).

Galatians 4,1+2:

Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.

God can't give us the liberty, that we desire now, because „*we are of his offspring*“ (Acts 17,28), because we are not yet able to handle it – meaning: God and our fellow humans in the far distance away in the world are not able to love enough in order to keep in control of that promised authority, so we would abuse it. So he will not give us the godly sovereignty, that we wish to possess.

Great, one may say: one that desires to fellowship with God, that has to do it according to God's requirements, also logically isn't able to participate in sharing his power. Why then he leaves those that didn't decide for him alone? Why then he didn't create another substitute heaven for them? Without him, but for himself in peace? Why then he has to cast them into hell? Is he then not so full of love for those that doesn't love him?

Genesis 4,16:

And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden. (Note: The name „Nod „, means restlessness, escape,wandering)

Matthew 22,10-13:

So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Cain was the first person, that consciously decided to live without God, but where God is absent, there is “Nod”. Jesus is the light of the world, and God is the light, as a person desires to live without him, then he/she must dwell in darkness! God also has created a place of existence for those that don’t want to live with him! There is darkness, rules chaos (Genesis 1,2: tohuwabohu!; Flames are a chaotic spinning of elements) – and that the person, created after God’s likeness and towards him (Colossians 1,16)are not happy about his condition is a sad but real consequence . Would it be light and warm there, then the presence of God would be around. And all who reject God would have no place to hide and escape from him!

John 3, 19:

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

It may sound macabre , but even hell is a sign of God’s love, that the godless humans, if they could still prefer hell with gnashing teeth before being with God in Heaven.(see Revelations 16,8-11)

The one question still remains: If there is no existence of happiness outside of the fellowship with God for any earthly human being-why then God does not allow the possibility and right to suicide? This right will be granted more and more in our society in our physical area , because it’s part of self-determination of a human being to even to destroy oneself , as one is not willing to bear its own existence. Why God let the human far from him suffer eternally? Or , even as he does not allow that the human is able to end his life for all eternity: Why then he does not erase the existence of his enemies or those that don’t want to live with him like a candle without oxygen ? Why this suffering of eternal life?

Colossians 1,12-17:

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

In Jesus everything is created – everything exists through him! All that exists , exists in Jesus Christ, the image of God. But because God is eternal, without beginning and timely limitation , God must erase a part of himself , as he would erase one part of all his Creation – and that he does nor do. Luke 20,34-38:

And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage: But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection. Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him.

All the created, even the devil exists in God. That's why all that is created must exist eternally, will it be in the distance away from God in hell or in the presence of God as united with him. We are not able to escape from God, nor even rise up against him in order to get rid of him! Would he allow us, so he would limit his own existence and make all his created fellow beings unhappy. However, I'm not sure if eternity as they exist in heaven and in hell can be compared with a continuation of time as we know it from the world and also as the rich man experiences it in the Hades (see Luke 16:23-31) .

Jesus said to them in John 8,58:

Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

Proper it should say: "Before Abraham was, I am" , or? But Jesus is the great „I am” – God stands out of time. What many religions have suspected, namely that there exists a condition of timelessness, wherein the past, the presence and future are one, that is what the Holy scripture talks about! That's really a great comfort for those in Heaven and even those in hell! One that is in Heaven will not remember those anymore those who got lost and he will even in Heaven feel not boring ,and one that is in hell will live in the state of „here and now“. To admit it, it is a bit speculative, because I don't know the condition apart of the life on earth, but I will try to explain and interpret. I will not deny one aspect, that the Lord describes in the parable of the evil wine-dresser (Matthew 21,33-44; Mark 12,1-12; Luke 20,1-19).That aspect can be described best with a word out of the letter of Hebrews.

Hebrews 10,26-31:

For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

In the Bible, often the wrath of God over sin and the sinner is mentioned, something that really opposes the people of today, because they are self-confident. But God in his own eyes is treating his enemies and created human beings“ as also the rest of the world as they deserve it, he does not even ask them for allowance. The higher beats the lower one, and God as some may say is **not** a “toothless tiger”! However , God offers us , his created human beings his friendship!

John 3,16:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Luke 15,31:

And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.

John 17,24:

Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

And as we accept that offer, we make ourselves happy and him also!

The question, why God allows the suffering of the human beings in hell are in close relation with the old question of humankind about the root of all the suffering. Even in an individual case there may be no satisfaction of answer and relief of the pain of the persons involved. But one thing can be drawn and concluded out of the before mentioned , that all the suffering in the world is a result of the life distant from God . Would God be united with the humans beings, so there would be no suffering (Revelations 21,4); and would we not be God’s image, meaning in his likeness, then he could have created us without any ability and feeling to experience suffering ! One recognizes at the rawness and lack of pity towards others and oneself (!) those that are used to live in distance from God. The sin - the conscious dissociation of the human being from God, that even the Creation suffers (Genesis 3,17+18; Romans 8,19-22), has brought death and pain into the world ,so effects Humans and God alike! The worst thing herein is, that those who sin are not suffering under their sins, but those that live around them. The sin causes a curse,that continues from generation to generation. Even as God does not let other human beings suffer for those that sins as described in Exodus 20:

Exodus 20,3-6:

Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

All sin leads to idolatry, because the human being is not able to be without a „god”, even he himself or a stone is god for him! Something has to give him a foundation and security. But one that serves idols, destroys God’s Creation and that God doesn’t tolerate.

So God has placed the curse of the consequences of his sin upon him, the sinner, then if this would not be the case, we would not recognize the power of destruction of our sin, by that we would not be willing to turn away from sin. The prodigal son has not returned to his father, because he immediately had the desire, but because he loved himself only. He returned, because he saw the advantage of it and

Recognized there is no other possibility to save his life! So also the suffering of the world and the experience of the consequences of sin are a means of God to cause the human to return back to God.

A special kind of suffering I shortly want to mention - the suffering of those whose prayers are not answered, because often humans have doubted desperately of their faith, because their prayers have not been answered. First of all it must be recognized, that God in his love and mercy even answers the prayers of non-believers (Matthew 5,45); a claim upon it only have the children of God! Why? Simply, because they are people not redeemed and live separated from God and so do not belong to God!

Ephesians 2,11-19:

Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

Often God answers the prayer of those that do not want to deal with him – but he (God) is not indebted to do so! Thereby the argument of those that despise the love of God, because he didn't help them once in emergency is invalid, because all their life they didn't care about him before! But even his children should have settled and ordered their lives and relationship with him, before they request something of him:

Matthew 5,23+24:

Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

Matthew 6,14+15:

For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

John 9,31 :

Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

We, as children of God have the right and privilege that God answers us, as far as our will is in agreement with his will for us, the Bible is very clear (see John 15,7 and others) Thereby we need to know what is the will of God in the given situation. Often the scripture makes clear statements, if not, then we can ask for revelation of God's will (James 1,5) – or place the issue trustfully into the care of God (Psalms 37,5; 1. Peter. 5,7). What, if I have prayed accurately according to a promise of God, but didn't receive (not yet) an answer? Mostly this happens in the area of healing, that one prays with a sick person, then he will be healed, and beside him another also receives prayer and remains sick. Does God make differences, does he deal arbitrarily or is the not yet confessed sin or unknown sin of the sick person the reason for the lack of success? If the problem of the willingly refused repentance is excluded, so I see three further reasons responsible for it:

James 1,2:

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into diverse temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Children seldom have patience from birth on, that's true for the children of God also! And patience can be learned best by being "patient".

2. Corinthians 7,10-11:

For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

God sometimes does not answer our prayer in order to reveal the hidden things of our hearts He denies a symptomatic healing until he has reached in his diagnose to the core of the problem.

Hebrews 11,39+40:

And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

God sometimes has something better for us, as what we desire, like parents that do not fulfill all the childish wishes of their children, because they know, that their children need something more important or that something beautiful is waiting for them. By this explanation I shortly tackled the problem of answers to prayers, it is far too complex, that I could explain it here in short.

In the first chapters we have found out, that God is not bound to logic , in this chapter I have been a bit inconsequent , because I have answered upon those questions here with logical arguments – even it has been through the Bible ,namely a revelation I tried to answer. Therefore I want to emphasize at the end of this long chapter one thing: God is not predictable, not even through the Bible:

Isaiah 55,8+9:

*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

Romans 11,33-36:

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?

Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?

For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen.

But he is predictable in one sense, that we can know: He loves us, whatever will happen . Because he loves himself and because HE is Love, he cannot any different , as to love and that excludes every trickery and falsehood:

1. Corinthians 3,4-8:

For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

How can we know , if the Christian faith is the true faith?

Even one century before this kind of question would not have been a serious problem in Christian circles. There have been great controversy about which direction of the Christian faith then would have been the right one, but in one all that called themselves Christians agreed, that Jesus Christ is the only way to Heaven. Also the Bible makes a very clear statement like in the Book of Acts 4,12:

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

or in 1. Timothy 2,3-6a:

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all

Beside this Jesus also says about himself :

John 14,6:

Jesus spricht zu ihm: Ich bin der Weg und die Wahrheit und das Leben; niemand kommt zum Vater denn durch mich.

In the beginning 21st century the reality looks very different here in Europe! The Christians are very cautious about their public statements like this, because they don't want to be called fanatic and potential fundamentalists .And even more and more it is made difficult for them to announce their belief and so question the other religions in their contents of truth and declare that they are on the wrong way , one needs to be cautious about and it automatically leads to alienation from God. So for the future it will be more important, to think first about what to say! Where do the Christians take the liberty to see their faith as the only one „happy-making“ and declare all other belief systems as a way into darkness? One must admit that the Christian occident in past centuries has revealed a very behavior totally contrary to the Bible , as a result people became very doubtful towards the Christian religion . In the Bible there is stated:

2.Thessalonians 1,6-9:

Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that(my add: don't want to!) know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; The judgement of God is for those people, that don't want to know God or have come to know the Gospel , understood it , but still remain in rejection towards it! (see. Rom 2,7-10) One native american that refused the baptism , that has been enforced upon him even he doesn't understand the meaning of it ,does not enter hell also like a devout muslim , that has never heard of the Gospel message or has never seen something different from Christianity, only that what the „christian world“ shows him! Every human gets lost without Jesus (Romans 2,12-16); but those , that died being god-fearing even without hearing the Gospel message then it will be made known to them after their death:

1. Peter 4,6:

For this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

That doesn't really mean „All-reconciliation“ ! One that does reject the Gospel here on earth (see Hebrews 6,4 and 10,26), even he has clearly recognized the necessity of it, can't hope for forgiveness like the masses of those people that let „God be a good man“!

This eternal consequence, that the Christian faith testifies about, is the reason for the rebellion of nowadays people. Christianity is not tolerant at all towards other religions and philosophies of this world (see Colossians 2,8 !). The people are „fed up“ with wars fought about faith and religions inspite of all the doubtful expectations and promises for eternity that make the life of millions here on earth a hell because of these wars even they are not part of it. Beside all this the absolute claim of Christianity ,it contradicts the sense of justice of the human beings , that do not believe in Christian teachings .Why God then has allowed the creation of so many different religions , if only one religion shall be the true one- and as a consequence of it with an eternal punishment for those that took another way? Which human being is able to claim to have received the one and only truth for him self and all other people whom God loves the same way and those people which also love God are on the wrong way and for that fact will be punished? Can this be a loving God? The “solution” from today could look like this:

God has revealed himself to every nation in all times as it was fitting to their present state of development: Primitive cultures of antique people, for example, the Semites had plenty of almost human gods, mostly of patriarchal order, that exercised their rule by strict laws of vengeance. As a result of the establishment of cities a culture of meditation about the people and the world was developed and so God could reveal himself more and more as a God of love and tolerance.

That's why we must reject all monotheistic religions of today in their pure form as from the past , they must be updated to the time we live in. Also all religions pray, even they are different but to the same God! Each one is incomplete, according to the understanding of the founder of that religion, which was a child of his time, whether they were called Moses, Jesus or Buddha.

Also, we believers have just recognized a partly aspect of the godhead, even it came out by revelation ,so we do not have the right to place our revelation above those of other believers . The only thing we can do is to claim that for us it as the only valid truth! Then the believer creates himself an own picture of God , that is an image of his in-and outside environment. Thereby God can't fully be comprehended by us human beings , all religions in that sense are equally true and equally !As a result of that the classical sense of mission according to Mark 16,15+16 is sin towards God ,because we enforce our own weaknesses upon others , because we do it out of our limited God-image which becomes our idol(religious fundamentalism, is in fact idolatry!!) and beside that senseless , because God will take care in other ways about that truly seeking person . More important for the expansion of the worship of God than mission is the fact, that the inner quarrels about different teaching opinions must be settled between the different denominations in order to deal with other religions in a human way, this takes a lot of efforts still. This kind of thinking has always been the credo of the eastern religions –it will be more and more a conviction not only in the western world, but also play a major part in the Christian state churches and also more and more in the free and independent churches.

One that looks at the this subject more closely and compares the different ways to salvation, one must admit that they have almost common basics in morality and their claims are very similar- I the 10 commandments or the content of the Sermon on the Mount can be found partly in a few other religions too-But they contradict one another in the statements about God and the way to him!

For Christians Jesus Christ is equally God- Islam claims that God has no son. Monotheistic religions announce that God has created the world, wherein there exists a possible and eternal alienation and distance from God –pantheistic religions proclaim the becoming unity between the creation and the godly spirit or being, wherein a hell could exist only temporarily until the world has returned to its origin. And finally many religions through obedience, knowledge or imitation of godly characteristics like mercy and doing good to others trying to become acceptable for God, which according to the teachings of Christianity is impossible , yes condemnable:

Romans 3,28:

Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

Romans 9,30-10,4:

What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.

But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

There, again the question arises, Can a loving God allow it to let humans remain in uncertainty about his being and characteristics on their way to happiness even if they differ in their point of view

A loving God must show us clearly how he wants to be worshipped and how one can come to him- A God that does not offer any clarity, has no love towards his Creation! For example would Buddhism the right way , then Christianity would „only“ mean extended suffering, If Christianity is the right way , so then Buddhism in its rejection of an eternal godhead would lead into perdition! If Islam is the right way , then God should mark Christianity clearly as evil-Why then he has allowed it? There can never be two religions true at the same time as far as they are the revelation of a loving God, because they contradict one another fundamentally. If they are not revelations of God, then **none** of these religions will lead to God!

How one can find out in that hurly-burly of religions which one is the right and true one, if she would

exist at all ? And why God allows those other religions, that lead others into error? Even our intellect is not able to help us in this! Because godly revelation can't be judged by human intellect, because the nature of God is superior to us ; beside this fact all religions have their problem with the intellect, also the Christian religion! In all religions can be found unlogical aspects, which even contradict one another. That's why in past centuries the long trial of Christians to proof God and Christianity with logical arguments, and even to defend it failed. The world was laughing about this attempt, even the Bible does not advise and recommend this practice:

1. Corinthians 1,18-29:

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.

How then can we move forward in our search for the truth? :Let us look in the Bible , then we can find there the following scripture passage, in which Jesus talks about his divinity:

Matthew 16,13-17:

When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

We see that Jesus didn't answer in this very important question with intellectual arguments in order to proof his divinity; he even didn't try to correct those people that didn't believe in him! And why? Because he knew that the faith in him could not be produced by the people themselves, even they desired it! It is clearly stated in John 1,12-13:

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

As a person desires to become a child of God, then that person must believe in his (Jesus) name, must believe that Jesus saves from sin (Jesus, Matthew 1,20) and God's son is the anointed king, that has a claim upon this person's life, which he/she will accept (Christ, Psalms 2,6). And God himself has ordered it, so faith in him can't be inherited – there are no „Christian nations“ and God has also no grandchildren! –Nor out of own decision it can be brought forth –A godly revelation is necessary for faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior in comparison to faith in a personal god which everybody can have! (see. Romans 1,19+20). Lastly no person can force another human to the Christian faith or seduce or convince him, God has set up barriers in every human being in that case:

1. Corinthians 2,6-14:

Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

I choose that long text, because it is important to recognize, that no human being- even with much good will and effort can be „converted“! How many Christians have accused themselves or have been accused by others according to the theme: The world gets lost and you don't do anything against it! Often then Ezekiel 3,17-19 will be quoted. It is clear: All Christians have the great commission (Mark 16,15+16; Romans 10,14+15 and others); but they can only lead those to faith in Christ, which God has chosen beforehand!

Book of Acts 13,44-48:

And the next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

This so important fact of the predestination from before the beginning of Creation is described and dealt with in the Bible in Ephesians 1,4+5, in Romans 8,29+30 and foremost in Romans 9,14-24 – and has kept generations of people busy, because the predestination can't be brought in line with the free decision and choice of a human for or against the Gospel. This causes the question why a loving God could have already predestined a human being even before his birth for the damnation in hell I will not go deeper into this subject, for this there is very good literature available. The problem becomes really smaller as we consider that we are subject to the course of time, God stands outside of the timeframe we are living in, therefore he could consider our decisions beforehand. Yes, God is sovereign, he chooses whom he wants, he obdurate whom he wants (Romans 14 following) – but not without considering our decisions from the beginning of this world!

Let us return to the question, how we could get to know, if Christianity is the only right way to Heaven. The answer: We can't know it, it must be revealed to us! All our human efforts will only lead to more misery: "Christians born out of the flesh", that sooner or later will develop and become the greatest enemies of the fellowship of brothers and sisters (the ecclesia) (see Galatians 4,29).

Is it turns out like that as I need the grace of God in order to be able to believe - How can God judge me as I don't want to receive the Good News, the Gospel? (compare Mark 16,16; John 3,18 and others) Well, God has chosen and obdurate, but he doesn't despise anyone without offering him the opportunity to proof his attitude towards him, Into hell no one gets, because God didn't want him to be in Heaven (1. Timothy 2,4). The Jews for example in the above mentioned scripture passage have been a chosen as a nation, but didn't want, and God knew it beforehand and has hidden the Gospel for them, in order to let it be known among the „heathen“ that were standing around this nation! One must reject God and his Good News, the Gospel consciously in order to get lost forever: Hebrews 10,26-27:

For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

Once again- no person is entering hell by accident, or because he\she didn't know better about it! What then moves people to reject the Gospel of Jesus Christ or to deny the existence of a personal God against all best knowledge?

John 3,18-21:

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Ephesians 4,17-19:

This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

The Bible mentions two reasons for the rejection of God and his Gospel:

1. The lack of knowledge of the human beings, they are not guilty upon this fact, because this is the consequence of an unbelieving world and of the „god of this world“ (see 2. Cor. 4,4), which has taken care of this reality. Therefore for this reason they will not be judged! (Romans 5,13 !)

2. The sin of the humans, that they do consciously. In fact, the human being is a slave and servant to sin and the spirit of this world (Ephesians 2,1-3; Colossians 2,13-15 and others.); but through the Gospel of Grace he (the human) is able to find peace with God. (Rom 3,23+24; 5,1; 8,1; 10,4; Gal 3,13; Ephesians 2,11-20 and others!). As he is rejecting this grace, then God will judge him according to his works, and there, no one will reach the standards of God by his own works! This is described in Romans 2,12-16:

For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law; (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified. For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.
and in Romans 4,4+5:

Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

It is therefore a conscious decision-or to express it in a better way- many conscious decisions, up to the complete hardening of the heart(see Hebrews 6,4-8) –against God’s Good News or the acceptance of his existence and for the sin, that makes the human guilty before God and costs him the eternal life! Now, we again as born again believers (Christians) again can begin doubting!

So, for example John, “the Baptist”, as he was in prison (as symbol for “Babylon”-the world which is in enmity towards God, who is according to Revelation 18,2 a prison full of unclean spirits!):

Matthew 11,2-6:

*Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples,
And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?*

Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

It is obvious: here the Lord acts differently as with the disciple Peter, he points towards his deeds and the workings of God. Why? Well, John the Baptist had the Holy Spirit from birth on (Luke 1,15); through him, he could recognize Jesus as the Son of God. Only while in prison he had lost the spiritual sight, through the miracles, that Jesus did, he found his (spiritual) sight again. Miracles are not able to bring someone to believe in Jesus Christ, that’s only possible through the Word of God, that is Spirit and Life (John 6,63), but miracles are able to pull people towards God and to scatter the doubts!

A powerless Gospel without miracles is therefore useless like a wonder show, wherein the Word of God will not be preached! (see 1. Corinthians 2,4+5). And also arguments of the mind are able to help the doubting Christian to get a solid ground in faith again (see Ephesians 4,13+14) – for this for example this book has been written.

Let us turn towards the second question as one proclaims the Christian faith as the only right and true faith : Why does a loving God allow other religions at all? As this question is closely connected with the question: Why a loving God allows evil, we already found an intellectual approach in the fourth chapter of this book! The evil is the logical consequence of every form of alienation and separation from God-He must allow it partly in order for the humans to be able to recognize its existence. In the parable of the prodigal son in the Gospel of Luke chapter 15-11-32 we are able to read - Both sons have had an inner distance towards their father, both of them seeking their freedom, they wanted to be god over themselves as far it was possible for them. But only the prodigal son was able to recognize the consequences of his attitude, that without the help of his father he wouldn't be able to get out of the gutter. The son, who remains home saw only the compulsion of that relationship, which was his own choice, but not the freedom that would result out of that fellowship with his father. This also made him to be a co-heir and owner of all his possessions and goods. So likewise God must grant the possibility to choose another god than himself , if he doesn't want an "older son bride" in Heaven! This he has done already very early in the history of humankind!

Genesis 2,9:

And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 3,1-8:

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

God consciously has planted the tree in the Garden of Eden, the „tree of the knowledge of good and evil“, this tree could become dangerous to humankind .Added to this he released the snake which he knew was intellectually superior to the human being –why? The first human beings have proven through their behavior to take the first opportunity to make themselves independent from God: first they did not scream for help to him as the snake appeared, and secondly, as they entered into the temptation willfully to judge “good and evil” by themselves apart from God and so morally became equal with him.

As the father of the prodigal son gave him his inheritance and did not hold him back, to use it apart from him (his father) and to his own damage, so God gave the first humans the opportunity to make themselves independent from him and beside it also a seducer, which would offer them a righteous and eternal life apart from God. He knew what was in their hearts already and because of that incident it became consciously aware of the fact :*They saw, that they were naked* without protection and helpless without a Father . Every religion , that God allows , which sidetracks his Son Jesus Christ , which is the revelation of the invisible God is such a kind of temptation to live righteous and eternal without God as a person ,whom we must have with us at all times:

Colossians 1,12-15:

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature

And every religion leads finally to the knowledge of the human being that he before himself and God is naked , therefore without protection and in need for salvation , as far as the person is really serious about his search for God. Why God allows other religions? In order for humankind to acknowledge their need for salvation! This fact is underlined in the statement of the New Testament:

Galatians 4,1-5:

Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Why then Jesus didn't come down to earth during the time of Cain in order to bring us salvation?

It takes its time in the history of humankind, also it takes time with every nation, also with every individual, until he\she will be mature enough for the Gospel of Grace. The powers of this world, the evil spirits, which rule behind every idolatry worship (1.Corinthians. 10,20!!),are also „taskmasters”, that reveal to the humans their need for salvation! The worship of demons leads to alienation from God, which then leads to the expansion of unrighteousness. As a consequence the people cry out for laws that will bring order in their lives together, then this leads to the acknowledgment that these laws could not be kept in order to achieve peace with God:

Romans 7,7-13:

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet. But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me. Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.

So the second taskmaster comes into place, the law, (see Galatians 3,23-25), therefore replaces the first, idolatry-this leads again to nothing, because even the law makes the need for salvation visible , but does not offer any solution ! As one looks at all religions in their fullness , then in their relationship towards their Creator, can be classified then into two groups as described in 2.Thessalonians 1,6-8 says:

*Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;
And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven
with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that
obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

One part of the religions and philosophies doesn't want to know God, they reject a personal and almighty God, explain him only as a power (Daniel 11,38, Ezekiel 8,16) or make themselves an image like they find it in Creation ,finally an image of themselves (Romans 1,19-23). The other part is searching for true knowledge of God , but doesn't want the godly way towards salvation ,but is trying to achieve through the knowledge of good and evil by their own strength to get a claim for Heaven. Both ways are condemned to fail and will lead as one is honest to a true recognition in the consciousness for the need of salvation. Then God intervenes and reveals the Redeemer:

Job 19,25:

*For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:
And though after my skin worms destroy this body , yet in my flesh shall I see God:
Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be
consumed within me.*

If it happens by the proclamation of the Gospel through other people or through a tract or literature or through the personal appearance and experience from and with God, –God is very individual and flexible . But one thing is sure: Whoever reaches out whole-hearted after the knowledge for God and searches for peace in him, will find both! The tree of temptation to make oneself for a certain portion independently in a moral sense ,was meant to meet God on an equal level- eye to eye- was the „Tree of Good and Evil“ The evil in is obvious ways are very seldom a temptation for the person, that truly is a seeker of God, it pulls that person back instead of being a temptation for him. So the evil has to disguise and cover up with the mantle of the good, must appear morally and god-fearing or even at least show up reasonable in order to pull people away from the fellowship with God. That is true for all religions also including the „Christian religion“ , in all of them there is much truth , wisdom and good ,so it will lead people towards God and shows them their moral short-comings, they all reveal good diagnosis! But in therapy, they all fail, therein the evil has its big weight, it leads to a deceptive image of God, but is comfortable and easy to handle . Or to point towards the opportunity to be able to overcome the gap of separation to God out of the own strength and by their own chosen ways. (see. Eph 2,14f). Therefore the scripture declares:

1. John 4,1-3:

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

All religions also impart knowledge about God, but at Jesus – This is the parting of ways! Why then there is so much diversity in opinion among true Christians, that have led to separations? In my opinion there are primarily 3 reasons:

Matthew 13,24-30:

Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

God has through Jesus Christ and in his Word sown only the good seed of truth, but it always came to pass that the Christians „slept“ instead of taking care for the Kingdom of God. They were mainly engaged in the affairs of the world (Ephesians 5,14+15). The eyes and ears of the congregation, the teachers and prophets had shut their ears, so wrong seeds could enter the church, that produced poisonous plants of heresy (see Acts 20,29-31). How did God respond to that? He let them grow! – Because every wrong teaching of heresy looks seductive until its fruits are eaten and the effects of their poison is experienced on their own bodies. For us it also means: As a new teaching of heresy is appearing, it must be attacked and fought against it with the Word of God immediately, if nobody cares about it, as a result the time will come, that the only solution to get rid of it, is to separate from its followers. By the way: As one looks into history, he will realize, that also Anti-Christian religions and philosophies could gain a foothold upon humankind only, as Christianity was spiritually weak and busy with itself! It is especially obvious upon the appearance of Islam. The moon is seen in the sky even during daytime as the sun is shining (Maleachi 3,20); but as he does not give warmth, nobody recognizes him. It looks different, as the sunset takes place, there it gives back orientation to many people which have lost it

A second reason for division among Christians is described by Apostle Paul to the Corinthians:

1. Corinthians 1,10-13 and 3,1.4:

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you.

Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?

and.....

And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?

The signs of immature Christians are: they orient and identify themselves with their leaders- and they are jealous among one another, everybody wants to be greater than the other. How many church splits already took place because of these reasons, that to one „his“ way appeared to be greater or “his” church-founder seemed to be more important? Now there is a further reason for the appearance of church-splits and confessions:

1. Corinthians 1,22-24:

For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

The Lord has in every congregation his „Jews“- those because emotionally oriented , more with a charismatic touch – and the „Greeks“, those which have their emphasis upon their mind , more evangelical .Blessed is the congregation where the Spirit of God and His Love is so big so that both will remain under one roof!

Now, let us return to our subject:

One may ask then, why the apostasy (the falling away from the faith in the Lord Jesus Christ) before the return of Jesus will happen, instead humankind out of their experience will search for the Gospel of Grace, and why the fellowship of Christians of the end-time is spiritually so weak, so she must be raptured, in order not fall into the seduction by the antichrist. Is there anything wrong in God’s plans? Let us go back to the beginning of humankind in order to clarify this question:

Genesis 4,1-5:

And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. And she again bore his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

Here a human has portrayed himself religious and has offered God something of the works of his hands; What went wrong with God, that he was not satisfied with this offering of Cain? Well, the scripture passage does not reveal anything about the background, only one hint- the statement of Eva as her son Cain was born: “I, with the help of God”- that means: I do it by myself , I make it etc. even with God’s help and support! I don’t think it mattered to God, even he offered only fruits to him and no meat: It was the attitude and motive of the heart of Cain, that was not pleasing to God. It has been revealed, as God didn’t respond the way Cain was wishing and expecting it. Cain became upset and angry, and as we see later he didn’t want to deal with God anymore. This reveals that his attitudes and motives have not been upright and honest before. Cain knew that he- still needed God, so he tried to „purchase“ him, “satisfy and fob“ him with that offering“. Religion in any form is a business with God, wherein the intention is: one can purchase the claims which are upon our person and get free! The Bible explains, it is not the end at all:

Jude 11:

Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

Ways –Error – gainsaying . Without digging deeper further into that biblical situation, one is able to see and realize towards which direction this mindset will lead, this mindset, which appears religious and starts with a self-willing (self-centered) service to God: it ends in rebellion towards God , that finally reaches its peak through the spirit of antichrist:

Isaiah 14, 12-14:

How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High..

What has led Cain into this mindset and attitude, which finally as a result became the falling away from God and ended in the idolatry of the self (compare the descendants of Cain and their pride?) Yes, it is pride, pride upon their own performance, as it already found in the seed of Eva! This kind of sin already caused Satan to fall:

Ezekiel 28,11-17:

*Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.*

Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so : thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.

Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

In my other book with the title „The spirit of strength“ I deeply worked through that problem. Now here it is enough to recognize, that the pride upon the own identity , which is God-given –the identity, not the pride about it- is the incitement for the apostasy of humankind and of Satan alike . And this apostasy doesn't start with atheism, but religious with a self-centered and willful service! All religions , also the Christian religion contain that self-centered and willful service, which is born out of the pride of the human ,in which God should be contend about what I am doing for him! But He isn't contend and pleased with it:

John 4,21-24:

Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

From the human point of view religiosity seems to be pious and good – but in fact, it is only the friendly camouflaged disobedience, a showdown with God, compared with the defiant attitude of a little child.

Just to take note, I'm not talking about religiosity which comes out of the lack of knowledge, like it is described in John 4,19-24 or Ephesians 4,17-19!

In order to return to the question: why different religions came into existence: God allowed these religions in order to prove to them through their practice their incapability, but the human choose religion in order to emancipate himself from God for a certain part. And as more the human takes distance from God, as more the adversary of God is successful – to mix demonic portions into the - true and honest worship! And thereby contradicts true worship towards God:

Ephesians 4,17-19:

This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

1. Corinthians 10,19-22:

What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.

Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils. Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? are we stronger than he?

Again, here we recognize the three sides here: on one hand the conscious turning away from God's revealed will, the resulting lack of knowledge and finally the influence of the evil spirits, which use this lack of knowledge in order to get a foothold and influence by planting their lies. This will reach its climax in the time shortly before Jesus will return by the worship of the "animal-side" in the human and the worship of Satan, in fact in the full awareness of him as the adversary of God:

Revelation 13,4:

And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?

But that is – Praise God not the end of it all! Because Jesus Christ will return as God and king visible and all idolatry will come to an end for a (certain) time:

Isaiah 11, 9-11:

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

Revelation 20,1-3:

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

How can we get the surety, the Bible is truly „God’s Word?

One that has reached this page now , will be wondering or maybe upset, because I have quoted to all kind of subjects out of the Bible. Where does one gain the surety in order to rely on a book which is four thousand years old- Isn’t it really idiocy?

And even if the „Holy Scripture“ by wondrous ways has been preserved up to our time, even then we can’t expect , that we interpret the text in the same way as the nomad or a roman doctor was meaning it and the way he wrote it down . What kind of knowledge they had about modern- day science - are not many of them are categorized as miracles of God, even it can be explained easily today? And actually: Why such a source like a book which is easily can be manipulated? Didn’t have God anything better as the Bible, which has been read by the average people over centuries only in Latin language, which was not understood by all. And that has been “translated” by the powerful and mighty church as it was of advantage for themselves and the government in each individual country?

Is God not able to reveal himself to each person individually? These questions must be clarified, as it is subject to eternity! Even in the Christian circles the Bible will not be questioned, that’s why she (the Bible) has lost a lot of its reputation in the world, it is even strange and questionable in the world , because it has not been written in our days (this is by leaving a comment -a sign of the Anti-Christian spirit –which “exalts itself against God and service to God”-see in 2.Thessalonians 2,4). Where does that childish faith upon a „Book from Heaven“ come from?

Not all religions use a book in order to conserve the revelation, so it can be transferred to the next generation, before they will be forgotten. The Germans, the native Indian tribes of North-America and others have used the medium song. Holy songs, mostly in form of stanzas have been learned and taught and so transferred to the next generation. Something similar we find at the people of God-The Hebrews during their time of wandering in the desert:

Deuteronomy 31,15-19:

And the LORD appeared in the tabernacle in a pillar of a cloud: and the pillar of the cloud stood over the door of the tabernacle. And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them. Then my anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide my face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them; so that they will say in that day, Are not these evils come upon us, because our God is not among us? And I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evils which they shall have wrought, in that they are turned unto other gods. Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the children of Israel.

One is able to see, God has taken provision beforehand with this song in case his people would fall away from him and his scriptures –the laws, which Moses has written down – would be destroyed or forgotten. Why it has been so important, that these words should not be forgotten? Moses, the author of this song gave an answer upon this question:

Deuteronomy 32,44-47:

And Moses came and spake all the words of this song in the ears of the people, he, and Hoshea the son of Nun. And Moses made an end of speaking all these words to all Israel:

And he said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law. For it is not a vain thing for you; because it is your life: and through this thing ye shall prolong your days in the land, whither ye go over Jordan to possess it.

The same the Lord also said to his disciples about the words which he had spoken to them:

John 6,63:

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Here one thing becomes obvious : It is about the accuracy of the Word of God, one that he has spoken in order to transfer it „literally“ , so scripture is more adequate and practical than a song, which will experience sound shifts within a few generations causing the darkening and deformation of sense . The language of a four thousand year old scripture needs to be discovered anew , which in fact makes its interpretation difficult and insecure – a four thousand year old song does not exist anymore!! Well, one may say , why God doesn't appear to all the believers in each generation individually and personally? Why this dependency upon scribes or prophets, who are humans with failures? Well truly, that God reveals himself to individuals by appearances, who seek him is nothing special .Many people nowadays come to the faith and believe in Jesus because they have sought God in their own religion, e.g in Islam or even in the Christian Europe the group of the Quakers got founded. Their founder George Fox, has heard the voice of God while he prayed and has found out, that the same he has heard also can be found in the Bible. Yes, even Moses, the leader of the people of the Hebrews (Israelites) had to appear personally, because his people had forgotten him during their four hundred year captivity in Egypt, they didn't know anything about him (Exodus. 3,1 following. Why he doesn't make it easy for everybody? . I have a few reasons for this in my mind : First of all there is only a revelation of God that can be received only there ,where God wants to reveal himself , and as he does it , more or less he also has his personality around him. This only can be taken by persons, that recognize God as a loving God and who's sins are redeemed – the others will quickly escape !

Exodus 20,18-21:

And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it , they removed, and stood afar off.

And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die. And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not. And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was .

The now quoted passage happened during the proclamation of the Ten Commandments. One may recognize and see, God takes care to not easily the humans can have him as comrade! A comparable passage is found in Isaiah 6,1-7:

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, Woe is me! For I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.

We also find it here: As the human being is touched by the holiness of God ,he is getting aware of his sinful nature ,which then becomes a real problem ! The closeness of God is only endurable by the person that is born-again and to whom which has been redeemed from his sins by the blood of Jesus Christ. That is why we only after the day of Pentecost see the Holy Spirit working through dreams and visions and the “silent voice of God” generally speaking to all believers- which indeed has never stop in my opinion :

Book of Acts 2,14-18 and 37-38:

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

I will not dare now to step into a minefield, which spiritual gifts are up to date, but also a strong non-charismatic Christian must admit, that God still speaks into daily situations by bringing bible-verses up into memory, as it is required in the given situation (John 14,26). And there the problem starts also for us as Christians : The Holy Spirit speaks, where he is not grieved by sin (Ephesians 4,30) or through human and fleshly hierarchies or quenched by wrong teachings (1.Thess. 5,19+20) ! I think every Christian knows the situation, as the Bible doesn't speak to him anymore and the prayer sounds dull and empty, because one lives consciously in sin. If we would depend in our daily lives upon direct revelation, in my opinion, we soon would be delivered to the general religiosity.

This was for example the case in Israel during the time of the Judges: There existed a few prophets which more or less forcibly lived in the presence of God (Samson), but the masses of people were cut off from God by their sins, which as a result had the consequence that „every man did that which was right in his own eyes”. The Bible alone delivers the human being from other human mediators, which push themselves between God and the believer, because they are closer to God or seemingly closer in order to gain a better knowledge about his will! So the letter to the Colossians warns us:

Colossians 2,18-19:

Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

Every congregation, that has implemented hierarchical structures and walks in the ways that mega-churches go, keeps the believers away from the Scripture: it could be that the scripture is locked, or that direct revelation will be portrayed as more valuable as the Scriptures!

The Bible is also the foundation of „Church-democracy“. Everything that is valid, is also valid on a bigger scale for non-believers (people that are not born-again), because they don't possess the gift of discerning of spirits: As a person doesn't know the Bible, she can easily be let astray by evil spirits and usually he will (1. Corinthians 10,20)!

2, Peter 1,19:

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day stars arise in your hearts.

That God's revelation comes to humankind by a book is indeed no weakness, even because of the easy way of manipulation, but the opposite is the case. By the way it also is a concession to the general spiritual condition for us Christians! However the Word of God is also effective, as it is associated with the Spirit of God (2. Corinthians 3,6), so that people without the Holy Spirit will not be able to comprehend it (1. Corinthians 1,18 and 2,12-16), and also through certain circumstances Christians are not able to understand the Word of God anymore or even don't want to understand it anymore!

Isaiah 29,11-14:

And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed: And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned. Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.

2. Timothy 4,1-4:

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

As one visits a Christian bookstore and looks at the spiritual quality of the offered stock, he then will realize and recognize that apostle Paul was right! Well, I know that sounds very arrogant now, but it is really true.

As it is the will of God and the best for us to make the Bible the foundation of our spiritual life and faith in God-Who says that we totally can rely upon her? Couldn't it be possible that during the last two-thousand year that she has been falsified deliberately or at least unaware errors or transcription errors have entered in? That the Bible has been falsified is believed in Islam and other religious congregations and has been ascribed to the church, in the present time this opinion has been believed also by our society. These "revelations" first and foremost by the „intellectual press“ also pseudo-scientific books and novels have taken their part to spread that opinion.

There existed and still exist literature ,that come against those statements in that literature with arguments , but who else beside the bible-believing Christians reads this kind of literature? However, it is from the human point of view impossible to keep a written record over a period of two to four-thousand years understandable and also without faults! Language changes its meaning: a typical example is the word „cool“: A generation before it was infamous and an expression towards sexual desires. Nowadays it has become socially accepted and will be expressed generally upon all that causes joy and tension. How are we able to know, what the authors a few thousand years ago wanted to express, that we read today? And who knows, if those translators really were able to comprehend the meanings of a word accurate .There even in the translations in today's language its comes to problems because a word has in the foreign language more than one meanings. Which one is able to sort out as the meaning of the text is fully understood. On the other hand the meaning of a sentence can be expressed in different ways and as a result the emphasis upon its understanding can be set differently in reality, one is dependent upon the skills in language and the spiritual expertise of the translator, and in fact there are a few differences in the various serious bible-translations in the interpretations (exegesis) , not to forget the interpretations of the so called „ Bible for the Masses“ („Volx-Bibles“).The so-called „Bible-critics“ are busy : they want to interpret the text of today by the aid of historical science and want to find out what the author meant with his expressions and statements thousands of years before ,what we read today. Then finally only a few academics are able to comprehend the Word of God accurately and the masses of believers are totally dependent upon their performance! Then the church again needs theologians by profession, which will once again explain the ordinary believer how to understand the Bible, because he didn't study classical Greek, Hebrew and Prehistory. If this really has been the intention of a loving God in order to reveal himself to humankind in such a way? I don't think so! And also the Bible says something different :

1.John, 2,27:

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

John 5,37-40:

And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

2. Corinthians 3,6:

Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

1. Corinthians 2,12-16:

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Exactly, the Word of God, that is recorded in the Bible is living, is Spirit and Life (Joh.6,63); but only in connection with the Holy Spirit! If a person does not have the Holy Spirit, because he is not born-again, if a person wants to analyze it by intellect, he will not be able to comprehend it nor understand its statements nor even will be able to clearly translate it- But as a child of God, he/she will not only be able to understand its original meaning of the scripture passage, as he asks God for understanding, but also recognize if a translation has been chosen wrong randomly or consciously. And the born-again, spirit-filled translator (of the Old Testament) will choose out of the different possibilities the one and formulate it in the way that God wants it to have, because God's Spirit (the Holy Spirit) is instructing and guiding him. Also today there exist Bible-translations that have been pushed under worldly ideology, like the „Bible in righteous language“ – but they have not won much favor in the body of Christ, because a born again Christian senses, that there is „something wrong“, *“my sheep know my voice“* and they *„do not follow a stranger, but flee from him, because they do not know the voice of that stranger“* (John 10,4+5). So, over six-thousand years, the Spirit of God was successful to translate the Bible always into its original meaning- in spite of a few insignificant translation errors and likewise keep away intentional falsified translations from the people of God.

As one believes, the Bible has been falsified, that person has a wrong understanding about God, that is totally contrary to the witness of the Holy Spirit in us!

▶ Because God does not change (Numbers 23,9)

▶ And because he is faithful and loves us, he also takes care about us (Luke 11,9-13)

▶ And above all he is also almighty

▶ And also today he intervenes in the events of the world (Revelation 22,18+19 and Jeremiah 1,22+23)

Then he (God) can't and won't allow that his word from which we are depend upon daily like from daily food and water will be distorted through human wickedness or human incompetence!

Therefore we can be sure, that the Bible in spite of all her translation-errors is still totally reliable, also that intentional falsified and wrong translations are kept away from the people of God through God himself! Even through the times of the Apostles there were many „gnostic“ gospels around, but accepted were only four by Christianity, and this long before the Council of Nicaea.

At this Council only has been publicly approved what already has been practice in the congregations. As nowadays there is much talk and discussions, that the gospels or holy scriptures have been suppressed by the old church and withheld from the congregation, it only shows how less the bible-critics of today are convinced of the love and almightiness of God!

As we can be sure, that the Bible we have today is was God's intention, then only the following question has to be clarified: how much of its content is really inspired by God and how much is of the own addition of the author, because there were human beings, no machines .Wherefrom do we know, which of what has been recorded in the Bible is really God's opinion and not the opinion of the writer or the contemporary perception?

That the Bible is really God's Word in the literal sense , is denied by modern theologians of all major churches even it is questioned by evangelical bible schools. For all of them it **is** not God's word anymore, but only **contains** God's Word. There God's intentions can be found, of course shown in the limitations of the authors as human personalities embedded to their present viewpoints of their time as they were able to comprehend it. As for example in the Old Testament it is stated , that the sun moves from one end of the Heaven to the other and then return again (Psalms 19,7), then the reason for this expression is, the authors didn't know anything about the heliocentric worldview , and as Apostle Paul says, Women are not ought to teach in the congregation (1. Timothy. 2,12),then because they were caught by the patriarchal image of society in the antique world .In order to apply the Bible to our present time, it is necessary to modify this statements there as they are contrary to the knowledge of natural science or using an image of human and society ,that does not fit to the image of society of nowadays. The Bible talks about slaves-they do not exist anymore! The statements only still have a meaning in the allegorical sense !If this is the case, then a literal interpretation of scripture is prohibited also in other places, as we know that in the far eastern world people are tempted to exaggerate things. There theologians are needed, who out of their knowledge of history explain what is the literal meaning and what can be understood as an illustration. Well, the question now arises again: Has a loving God the intention to make it more complicated for his children? As we believe the Bible is a s God intended it as it is. Then she should give us information-and she really does!

Matthew 22,15+16:

Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men.

The enemies of Jesus that criticized him had to admit, he did not allow to be influenced in any way by the environment around him .Jesus did not follow the culture or spirit of his age. He was God enough in order to look beyond the worldview of the antique. As one assumes to Jesus for example he hasn't ordained women to become apostles, because it did not fit his worldview or spirit of age then humanizes the Lord too much. Surely he was human, but first and foremost HE is God! What he has said and ordered in his time is still valid and what he has not done likewise.

Matthew 12,38-40:

Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

The story about Jonah or the book of Genesis are in favor to be interpreted as myths that have nothing in common with reality, but the Lord saw it differently! Also we should not interpret the stories of the Old Testament as simple symbolic as they do not fit into our historical and natural-scientific world view!

Apart from that, the Bible doesn't talk about the Creation of the world, but from the restoration of the earth (Genesis 1, 1+2!) –especially the mentioning of numbers of ages in Old Testament reveals, whom we should more believe: God's Word or today's natural science!

1. Thessalonians 2,13:

For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

2. Peter 3,14-17:

Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

God places an emphasis, that the letters of the Apostles and especially the Letters of Apostle Paul are not letters of a Christian missionary, but to be fully the Word of God. Especially at the Letters of Paul it is important, because those scriptures are mostly understood as from a bullheaded bachelor as author. Also those the words in the Letters of Apostle Paul are not words from him, but God's words, spoken and written down by Paul. And by the way of exception as he expresses his own opinion to a certain subject, then he mentions it also! (so for example in 1. Corinthians. 6,12!).

2. Peter 1,19-21:

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

No prophecy of scripture...that means the whole Bible! As Peter speaks about the prophetic word, which the Apostles possess, so he clearly means also the Apostles of the New Testament and their authors like Luke, Mark were heralds of God. They only spoke out what God wants to express to us as humans. So everything the Bible says „doesn't allow any own interpretation“- We have to take it literally as long as we are not clearly sure and know that it is not meant literally! (Often it is recognize by the little word „like“. As God's opinion will not be expressed like in the case of the friends of Job or in 1. Corinthians 6:12, then the Holy Spirit will reveal it to us precisely.

The opinion or knowledge of the authors was never a purpose of biblical consideration, even if it has been written for the viewpoint of an ordinary man or woman; (Psalms 19,5-7 and others.), those

people which for example had no knowledge about a heliocentric worldview like it was the case and reality for most people for centuries .

Many things that the authors of the Old Testament recorded was not known by them, for example , that the Earth was hanging upon nothing (Job 26,7; Isaiah 44,24) or the description of the kind of death at the Cross in Psalms 22!

God didn't simply switch of the personality of the authors , so for example one is able to recognize a change in the strictness at the letters of Paul from the first to the Romans until to the last letter to Timothy. Also the choleric David or a Jeremiah the melancholic still are able to be recognized as those persons.

As the authors set wrong priorities, the Holy Spirit has corrected it at this place or another (e.g Psalms 106,32+33).The writers have been one Spirit with God (compare 1.Corinthians 6,16+17), still they had their own character, what they said, has been from God , how they said it, it also has been a sign of their own personality.

To conclude it, the Bible is not only a history book or a manual for a Christian life, she, the Bible is God's Word, spoken by Him and therefore not only informative, but often producing wonders .Even as In certain circles the Bible will be abused, because it is used as a book of magic-God's Word has power, brings salvation, healing and even works miracles only as it is applied under the leading of the Holy Spirit. So I want to encourage every Christian, not only to read it, but to apply His promises, as it offers God the opportunity to reveal himself to the humans, so they recognize that He is among them:

1 Corinthians 2,4+5:

And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Finally, I would like to thank all readers, that had the patience to follow my explanation up to tis lines It was my goal , to show arguments for the understanding of the Christian faith, should this have lead at some readers to more interest about the Christian faith, then I would like to give a short statement of mine: As already mentioned in chapter 6 , a human being needs a revelation from God in order to recognize Jesus Christ as God and Lord of the World. What is then the next step? As Jesus Christ is a person, one is able to get into personal contact with him, and this should be done, because the faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is first of all a relationship before anything else.

John 1,12:

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.

It is not enough to analyze the Christian faith, to make a decision in your mind and then believe into the contents of the Bible! In fact, really born again is only the person , who after having made a decision in his mind surrenders consciously his life into the hands of Jesus :

John 5,39-43:

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. I receive not honour from men. But I

know you, that ye have not the love of God in you. I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

The theology of mind is in fact a major hindrance to enter into Heaven, because the mind is the wrong tool for spiritual things.

1. Corinthians 2,12-14

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

The matter must also work differently- and even more simply as our mind makes us believe it:

Luke 11,9-13:

And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

As you desire to become a Christian , then please lay down all efforts of the mind and simply do three things:

a. Claim for yourself the truth, that Jesus Christ through his death at the Cross of Calvary redeemed your sins before God, as the Bible is stating it in many passages:

Colossians 2,14:

Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

John 5,24:

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

b. Hand over your life deliberately unto Jesus Christ, the Son of God, lay your life in the future and your plans how to lead your life in his hands and ask him to help you to believe that he is able to do it:

Romans 10,9+10:

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

John 10,27+28:

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

c. Ask God to help you to believe it. That's all! The Spirit of God will answer you sooner or later or to reveal to you an evidence to you as being "born-again" now, as it looks like that:

1. John 2,27:

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

1.John 5,9-12:

If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

This witness, from which the Bible talks about is the supernatural peace with God, which can't be achieved through the mind, but also can't be destroyed by the mind on the long run. It is called the "assurance of salvation", and she is the outstanding attribute of a born-again Christian. As Christians are "children of God", it is very natural, that they desire spiritual food-they find it in the Bible . They search for fellowship with God in prayer, because otherwise they would be lonely and feel insecure and also they search for fellowship with other Children of God. This is a further sign of something which has been experienced by them, which is called conversion.

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