

Is God the Author of Sin and Evil?

We are all prone to sin and helpless to avoid it. That's the way we're made. We are born with basically selfish desires. Babies are very self-centered and selfish by nature. They need to be taught to be unselfish and put the needs of others before their own. Evolutionists would say that our innate selfishness is a "survival" mechanism. So, in that sense you could say there is an obvious need for God to make us that way. Unfortunately, this basic "survival" mechanism also leads to sin, when we "harm" others for our own benefit. Obviously, God wants us all to rise above our basic "carnal" desires and learn to love people unselfishly. So, while our natural built-in selfishness serves a good purpose, from a "survival" of the species standpoint, God created us for more than just survival. This built-in selfishness also serves the higher purpose of creating the circumstances that result in our need for His love and forgiveness.

There would be no merit in doing good if we were not also capable of doing evil. One benefit of this is that in our fallenness, we most appreciate God's love and mercy. To fully appreciate God's love and forgiveness, we must first find ourselves in need of it. I just don't see where God's perfect nature is diminished in any way when He creates us with a built-in need for His love and forgiveness. As a matter of fact, I think it's an act of pure genius on His part. We cannot find true happiness and fulfillment except in union with our Savior God. God created us with a "built-in" need for a loving relationship with Him.