

The reasons God holds us accountable for our sins but doesn't judge us.

Humankind is essentially good. We come from God and are technically little pieces of God, made of "God stuff," or "Spirit." In other words, we are all God's children. When we incarnated into human flesh we assumed its inherent weaknesses. The Apostle Paul referred to our contrasting spiritual and human natures as the "mind" vs. the "flesh" (See Romans 7). Temporarily, our spirits, or minds, are captive to the limitations and weaknesses of the flesh. Some of us were born with mental impairments, such as autism, low I.Q. or the propensity for various mental disorders, many of which don't show up until later in life. Some of us were born with an inability to empathize, as in the case of psychopaths and sociopaths. Some of us were born into dysfunctional families and were literally brainwashed with negative values and negative ways of thinking. Some of us were born into Christian homes, with the advantages of financial security, sharp minds, healthy bodies, and so on. Each of us has been exposed to a different set of physiological, psychological, sociological and environmental influences which have shaped our thought processes.

For these reasons, God does not think less of us when we fall into sin. God expected this to happen. It's all part of God's plan. All of us, even the best of us, by design, have been corrupted by the flesh and are helpless to overcome all of the resulting sin in our lives. God loves us anyway, because God knows how helpless and imperfect we are, due to the various weaknesses of the flesh.

At the same time, however, God does not ignore our sins. Instead, God uses the various messes we get ourselves into to mold us and shape us into better human beings and more advanced spiritual beings. God has set in motion a universal and absolute law of cause and effect. We all suffer the temporary consequences of our deeds. Negative attitudes and deeds produce negative consequences. Positive attitudes and deeds produce positive consequences. We sow what we reap. This process of sowing and reaping teaches us the folly of sin and the joys of unselfishly loving others.

Jesus didn't come to judge us. Instead, He came to save us from the negative effects of our sinful attitudes and behaviors. The Gospel (Good News) of Christ is not about who goes to Heaven or Hell after they die. We all end up in the heavenly realms after death. The Gospel of Christ has mostly to do with the rewards we reap in Heaven after we die. Those rewards are not "things" like mansions, or fancy

cars to drive on those golden streets. The greatest rewards will be **THE PERSONS WE HAVE BECOME** as a result of lessons learned while on Earth. The greatest reward of all will be hearing those wonderful words, “Well done, my good and faithful servant.”