

# Universalism and the Scriptural inerrancy debate

It is troubling to some Christian Universalists that not all of us view the Scriptures as literally true and/or inerrant. Virtually all Universalists believe that regardless of one's views on the Scriptural inerrancy all will be redeemed sooner or later. The worst case scenario would be for someone to reject the Scriptures altogether, stop believing in God, fall into a grievously sinful lifestyle, and then suffer temporal (ie. age-during) corrective judgments of God.

In my book, *“Christian Universalism, Maybe God Isn't Such A Bad Guy After All,”* I make a very strong case for Universalism based on a pretty strict interpretation of the Scriptures, largely consistent with the doctrine of inerrancy. I also make a pretty good case based on science, reason and logic. It doesn't really matter whether you view the Bible as inerrant, partially inerrant, or whether you reject the Scriptures altogether, there is plenty of evidence out there to prove the existence of a loving and benevolent Creator God who has nothing but good intentions for all of humanity.

Theological correctness is not required for Christian Salvation. For example, does it really matter what theory of the Atonement we subscribe to? There are a variety of views on this, in addition to the penal substitution theory, some of which are derived from a literalistic interpretation of Scripture passages, and some not. The important question is this. Does what we believe in any way change what actually happened? Does it really matter what mechanism God uses to redeem all mankind? Is not the end result what really matters? God is loving and just. He does not overlook sin, but at the same time He doesn't punish anyone with endless retribution in a place called Hell. All of God's judgments are consistent with His loving and forgiving nature.

I would encourage each of you to pause, breathe deeply, and then let out a sigh of relief, knowing that your eternal destiny is firmly in the hands of a loving Creator God, *“who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.”* 1 Timothy 4:10