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Subject: Re: Question for Christians

Posted by [Dover](#) on Thu, 11 Jun 2009 19:23:26 GMT

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Altzan wrote on Thu, 11 June 2009 11:47 You're more or less calling for proof. I don't have any. Gasp, I must be wrong and I should give up, right? Nope.

and if Christianity isn't true, why worry about Hell, eh?

I'm not calling for proof. I'm calling for your reasoning behind your beliefs. I'm willing to settle for something short of reproducible scientific results, I'm just looking for something more than "Everyone else I know is doing it, I should too."

I think you misunderstand my motivations here. I'm not trying to convince you of anything--you're just text on a screen for me. I'm just trying to gain a little more insight into the mind of a Christian, and maybe share a little thought experiment with you in the process. You can dig your heels in and give the typical reaction when these conversations reach this point ("HA HA YOU CAN'T CONVERT ME!!1!"), or you can let your mind wander and actually consider the things being said. I promise God won't smite you for it.

And you're right, you shouldn't be worried about hell, even if you are, I suspect your God wouldn't approve anyway. If you're a good person for the sake of avoiding punishment, you're really not a good person after all. This kind of thinking is indicative of the lowest stages of Lawrence Kohlberg's theory in moral development. Even infants avoid punishment and pain by reflex, yet it's a sign of a mature and well-developed individual to do the right thing, regardless of punishment or reward involved (Something Kohlberg terms "Principled consciousness")

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