

What will happen to the innocent people who have never heard about Jesus and the Gospel?

Many non-Christians state that one of the reasons they reject Christianity is that they feel it would be immoral to send someone to eternal hell who has never heard of Jesus and could therefore never repent and believe in Him.

1. Who could be considered to be innocent?

Jeremiah **17:9-10**

Romans **3:10-12**

Luke **18:18-20**

The scriptures are clear that every single person that has ever existed has sinned against God (except for Jesus) and is therefore guilty before God for sinning against Him. If they have sinned against God, the person is, by definition, not innocent but guilty. Those who are guilty are to be justly condemned for their crimes in order to pay the penalty for sin.

2. What does everyone by nature know about themselves?

Proverbs **20:6**

2 Corinthians **10:12**

Romans **1:28-32**

1 Corinthians **2:14**

By nature, everyone knows that he is not perfect, even though he wants to claim he is a good person. As we indicated earlier (Luke 18:18-20), God's measurement or standard of goodness is the nature and character of God. Man tries to use himself as the standard for goodness. That is why he can identify himself as good and even some of his family and friends as good. Unfortunately they are knowingly using an inaccurate standard. Furthermore, men know much of what is right and wrong. When someone harms them, they know that the harm committed against them is wrong and deserves to be punished. The problem is that he is inconsistent in the applicability of that standard. Essentially, as long as he is not the victim and as long as he is not caught, his actions are considered to somehow be acceptable. The unbeliever while knowing about the existence of God does not understand much about His nature and His character.

3. What does everyone by nature know about God?

Acts **14:17; 17:23-31**

Romans **2:14-15; 3:19-20; 10:17-18**

By nature, everyone knows that God does exist, even those who claim that He does not exist actually know that He does. In some fashion, everyone also knows that we share some common characteristics. For example, every culture in the world has some sort of understanding of right and wrong. They instinctively know that some actions are inherently wrong and others are inherently right. At a minimum, the concept can be seen when someone has acted in a wrongful fashion against them. They may not have the definition of right and wrong correct but they know it exists.

