

Can God Die?

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Some have asked the question whether God can die. To answer this, a number of scriptures related to God's law and nature must be examined. Starting with the law of God, it is clear that no one has to die unless they sin, or symbolically represent sin as Jesus Christ did,

For He (Almighty God) **made him** (Jesus Christ) **who knew no sin, to be sin for us** (figuratively), that we (the real sinners) might become the righteousness of God (Almighty) in him (through Christ's death) (2Cor. 5:21; Ed. notes in parentheses; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted; emphasis added).

Behold, all souls (lives) are Mine; the soul (life) of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine; **the soul who sins shall die** (Eze. 18:5, 20: cf. Rom. 6:23; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Therefore, unless Almighty God were to sin, He would not die. The next scripture confirms that He has not sinned, nor will He, because all who are resurrected from the dead, and in the presence of Almighty God, do not sin,

Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed (God's Holy Spirit; cf. Rom. 8:11) remains in him; and **he cannot sin, because he has been born of God** (1Jn. 3:9; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

In order for Almighty God to sin, he would have to be tempted to break His own law and commandments (1Jn. 3:4). However, the next scripture states that this cannot happen,

Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for **God cannot be tempted by evil**, nor does He Himself tempt anyone (Jas. 1:13; emphasis added).

If Almighty God could sin, His word could never be trusted and all the promises of everlasting life, for those who repent of sin and begin living in newness of life (Rom. 6:4), would be unreliable. Therefore, having faith in God and His word would be a futile exercise. Thankfully, it is impossible for God to lie,

For when God (Almighty) made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself (Heb. 6:13; Ed. note in parenthesis).

That by two immutable (unchangeable purpose) things, in which **it is impossible for God to lie**, we have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge (in God's truth) to lay hold of the hope set before us (Heb. 6:18; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

As Almighty God is sinless and will not sin, He cannot make a conscious decision to kill Himself because it would be self-murder, which is a sin (Ex. 20:13). As Jesus Christ is not Almighty God, but rather a son of The Almighty God, his offer to die as a substitute

for all sinners was not self-murder. Instead, Christ died at the hands of murderers, the chief one being Satan (Jn. 13:27). Also, as Christ had complete faith in his heavenly Father's power to resurrect him from the dead, he knew that any cessation of his life would only be temporary,

... for whatever is not (done) from faith is sin (Rom. 14:23b; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Now that it has been established that Almighty God will not die because of sin, and that He cannot kill Himself, can He expire as a result of growing old as some have postulated?

You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands;¹¹ **They will perish, but You remain**; and they will all grow old like a garment;¹² Like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and **Your years will not fail** (Heb. 1:10-12; emphasis added).

Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.² Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever **You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting, You are God** (Ps. 90:1-2).

Have you not known? Have you not heard? **The everlasting God the Lord. The Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary** ... (Isa. 40:28a; emphasis added).

Now to the King eternal, immortal (SGD 862; imperishable), invisible, to the only God who alone is wise, honor and glory forever and ever. Amen (1Tim. 1:17; cf. Ps. 10:16; emphasis added).

(Almighty God) **who alone has immortality** (is imperishable) dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom honor and everlasting power. Amen (1Tim. 6:16; cf. Jn. 6:46; Ed. notes in parentheses).

So Almighty God does not get tired, grow old, or perish. If He ceased to exist for any moment in time, everything and everyone that He created would cease to exist,

You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for **You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created** (Rev. 4:11; cf. Ps. 148:5; emphasis added).

In fact, there never was a time when Almighty God did not exist. He existed forever in the past and will exist forever in the future. This is what the phrase "from everlasting to everlasting" means. It refers to all directions past, present, and future,

Blessed be **the Lord God of Israel from everlasting** (SHD 5769; continuous existence) **to everlasting!** And let all the people say, Amen! Praise the Lord (Ps. 106:48; cf. Isa. 57:15; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

The problem for mankind is that we cannot grasp what eternal life is, because we all came into existence at some point in time and we will cease to exist at some point in the future. But Almighty God has always existed and there was never a time when He did not exist. We are capable of entertaining the idea of eternal life, but only in an academic sense,

He (Almighty God) has made everything beautiful in its time. Also **He has put eternity in their (mankind's) hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end** (Eccl. 3:11; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

So, thankfully, Almighty God cannot die and will never decide to kill Himself. If He died, everything He created, whether it was through His son Jesus Christ (cf. Col. 1:12-20) or prior to Christ's existence, would perish. However, there are other spirit-beings, who are referred to as gods (Ex. 15:11; 18:11; Ex. 20:3; Dt. 10:17; Jos. 22:22; 1Chr. 16:25; Ps. 95:3; 96:4; 97:9; 136:2), who can die in the same manner as human beings. Satan and the demons are in this category (2Cor. 4:4). The prophet Isaiah stated that Satan's schemes would be exposed at a future time, much to the amazement of many who were deceived by him during their physical lifetimes,

Those who see you (Satan in the future) will gaze at you, and consider you, saying: 'Is this the man (after Satan has been transformed into flesh and blood) who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms,¹⁷ Who made the world as a wilderness and destroyed its cities, who did not open the house of his prisoners (kept many deceived; cf. Rev. 12:9)?¹⁸ All the kings of the nations, all of them sleep in glory, everyone in his own house (died and were buried honorably); But you are cast out of your grave like an abominable branch, like the garment of those who are slain, thrust through with a sword, who go down to the stones of the pit, **like a corpse trodden underfoot** (Isa. 14:16-19; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

The apostle Paul reaffirmed that Satan would be trodden underfoot, after he has died,

And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly ... (Rom. 16:20a).

So the idea that spirit-beings cannot die is erroneous. All who have sinned will die eventually (1Jn. 3:4; Eze. 18:4, 20), whether they were born flesh and blood or whether they were originally created as spirit-beings,

For the wages of sin is death ... (Rom. 6:23a).

As mentioned previously, the only spirit-being that became flesh and blood, and died without committing sin, was Jesus Christ. This is proof that Christ is not the same as Almighty God who sustains all of creation. If Christ were the same as Almighty God and died, the entire universe would have ceased to exist at his death. Also, as Almighty God cannot be tempted (Jas. 1:13), and as Jesus Christ was tempted according to the next scripture, Christ is not Almighty God.

For we do not have a High Priest (Jesus Christ) who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but **was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin** (Heb. 4:15; emphasis added).

Also, as Jesus Christ is not Almighty God, he could not die and then resurrect himself after being dead for three days and nights (Mt. 12:40). Instead, it was Christ's heavenly Father, the Eternal God, who resurrected Jesus Christ,

For though he (Christ) was crucified in weakness, **yet he** (Christ) **lives by the power of** (Almighty) **God** ... (2Cor. 13:4a; Ed. notes in parentheses).

In conclusion, if Almighty God ceased to exist, everything and everyone He created would disappear and there would be no hope of everlasting life for anyone, even for those who have repented of sin. This dependence on Almighty God was described by the apostle Paul,

Now when all things are made subject to Him (Almighty God), then the son himself (Jesus Christ) will also be subject to Him (Almighty God), **that God may be all in all** (1Cor. 15:28; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all (Eph. 4:6; emphasis added).

Thankfully, Almighty God cannot die; otherwise there would be no assurance of everlasting life for anyone.

This document is the collaborative work of individuals who believe God's truth should be given freely (Mt. 10:8; 1Cor. 2:12; 2Cor.11:7; Rom. 10:14-21) and the message of the one true God should be made available to all nations (Mt. 24:14) as a prerequisite to the return of Jesus Christ as King of kings (Mt. 17:10; 19:17; Mk. 9:11; Lk. 1:17; Rev. 19:11-16).

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