

Why Does God Hate Women and Children?

Why does God have so little regard for women and children? God's hatred of them is displayed throughout the Old Testament. There is an awful lot of killing going on there, but that's what happens in war. What God and his chosen people do to women and children, however, is pure evil.

The Genesis Flood

It doesn't take long to get started. Soon after creating man in His image, God throws a holy hissyfit and kills off almost all of the earth's population.

Genesis 7:19-23:

The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all human beings; everything on dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, human beings and animals and creeping things and birds of the air; they were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the ark.

Millions of women and children drowned. Were kids the problem? Whatever got God so riled up, were children really the cause of it? Did killing them solve anything? Obviously not.

Jericho

Joshua 6:20-21:

So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpets, they raised a great shout, and the wall fell down flat; so the people charged straight ahead into the city and captured it. Then they devoted to destruction by the edge of the sword all in the city, both men and women, young and old, oxen, sheep, and donkeys.

Joshua 6:26:

Joshua then pronounced this oath, saying, "Cursed before the Lord be anyone who tries to build this city—this Jericho! At the cost of his firstborn he shall lay its foundation, and at the cost of his youngest he shall set up its gates!"

Women and children were slaughtered in Jericho, and more would be slaughtered if anyone tried to rebuild the city of Jericho. Why children?

Babylon

In Psalm 137 we find the song of a man who recently returned to Jerusalem from Babylon, where he had been held in exile after the Edomites conquered his beloved Zion. His bitterness is apparent in these verses: (Psalm 137:8-9):

Daughter Babylon, doomed to destruction, happy is the one who repays you according to what you have done to us.

Okay, he's looking for revenge. That's understandable. I guess *turn the other cheek* hadn't been invented yet. But then comes this:

Happy is the one who seizes your infants and dashes them against the rocks.

Whoa! Why take it out on innocent little kids? They didn't take Jerusalem. It isn't God who's directly smiting the little ones this time, as He did in Jericho, but there's nothing to suggest God has a problem with it, either.

Passover

When we take a look at the Passover event, we see that God turned loose the angel of death to visit the firstborn throughout all of Egypt. Why punish babies and children for the Pharaoh's recalcitrance?

Exodus 11:4-5:

Moses said, "Thus says the Lord: About midnight I will go out through Egypt. Every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne to the firstborn of the female slave who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the livestock.

No Survivors

Deuteronomy 2:31-34:

The Lord said to me, "See, I have begun to give Sihon and his land over to you. Begin now to take possession of his land." So when Sihon came out against us, he and all his people for battle at Jahaz, the Lord our God gave him over to us; and we struck him down, along with his offspring and all his people. At that time we captured all his towns, and in each town we utterly destroyed men, women, and children. We left not a single survivor.

Deuteronomy 3:3-6:

So the Lord our God also handed over to us King Og of Bashan and all his people. We

struck him down until not a single survivor was left. At that time we captured all his towns; . . . and we utterly destroyed them, as we had done to King Sihon of Heshbon, in each city utterly destroying men, women, and children.

1 Samuel 22:19:

Nob, the city of the priests, he put to the sword; men and women, children and infants, oxen, donkeys, and sheep, he put to the sword.

Zephaniah 2:5:

Ah, inhabitants of the seacoast, you nation of the Cherethites! The word of the Lord is against you, O Canaan, land of the Philistines; and I will destroy you until no inhabitant is left.

Sounds like bad news for women and children, as usual.

Booty Call

When women and children aren't being killed in the OT, they are but property.

Deuteronomy 20:10-14:

When you draw near to a town to fight against it, offer it terms of peace. If it accepts your terms of peace and surrenders to you, then all the people in it shall serve you at forced labor. If it does not submit to you peacefully, but makes war against you, then you shall besiege it; and when the Lord your God gives it into your hand, you shall put all its males to the sword. You may, however, take as your booty the women, the children, livestock, and everything else in the town, all its spoil. You may enjoy the spoil of your enemies, which the Lord your God has given you.

Misogynistic Tree Hugger

God cares more about trees than he cares about women and children.

Deuteronomy 20:19-20:

If you besiege a town for a long time, making war against it in order to take it, you must not destroy its trees by wielding an ax against them. Although you may take food from them, you must not cut them down. Are trees in the field human beings that they should come under siege from you? You may destroy only the trees that you know do not produce food; you may cut them down for use in building siegeworks against the town that makes war with you, until it falls.

Property Rights and Wrongs

Notice in this passage that the woman has absolutely no control over her own destiny. She is considered property.

Deuteronomy 21:10-14:

When you go out to war against your enemies, and the Lord your God hands them over to you and you take them captive, suppose you see among the captives a beautiful woman whom you desire and want to marry, and so you bring her home to your house: she shall shave her head, pare her nails, discard her captive's garb, and shall remain in your house a full month, mourning for her father and mother; after that you may go in to her and be her husband, and she shall be your wife. But if you are not satisfied with her, you shall let her go free and not sell her for money. You must not treat her as a slave, since you have dishonored her.

How considerate it is of God to tell the man he's not allowed to sell the woman. He has to just throw her away, like garbage. God is such a sweetheart sometimes.

Most of the time, however, women do not fare well under the OT God, as this strange story shows.

Judges 19:22-29:

While they were enjoying themselves, the men of the city, a perverse lot, surrounded the house, and started pounding on the door. They said to the old man, the master of the house, "Bring out the man who came into your house, so that we may have intercourse with him." And the man, the master of the house, went out to them and said to them, "No, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. Since this man is my guest, do not do this vile thing. Here are my virgin daughter and his concubine; let me bring them out now. Ravish them and do whatever you want to them; but against this man do not do such a vile thing." But the men would not listen to him. So the man seized his concubine, and put her out to them. They wantonly raped her, and abused her all through the night until the morning. And as the dawn began to break, they let her go. As morning appeared, the woman came and fell down at the door of the man's house where her master was, until it was light.

In the morning her master got up, opened the doors of the house, and when he went out to go on his way, there was his concubine lying at the door of the house, with her hands on the threshold. "Get up," he said to her, "we are going." But there was no answer. Then he put her on the donkey; and the man set out for his home. When he had entered his house, he took a knife, and grasping his concubine he cut her into twelve pieces, limb by limb, and sent her throughout all the territory of Israel.

So, she's lying there almost dead after being gang-raped all night, and all the guy can say is: *Get up. Time to go!*

Virgin Roundup

Then, more women and children are slaughtered by God's chosen people.

Judges 20:48:

Meanwhile, the Israelites turned back against the Benjaminites, and put them to the sword—the city, the people, the animals, and all that remained. Also the remaining towns they set on fire.

When the Benjaminites were defeated in battle against the other tribes of Israel, only 600 Benjaminite men remained to carry on.

Although the Israelites had just killed 25,000 of their Benjaminite brothers, they did not want to see that tribe rendered extinct. Those few remaining men needed wives. But the other tribes had taken an oath to not give their daughters as wives to the Benjaminite men.

So, the Israelites decided to just take what they needed from Jabesh-Gilead. They went there and killed all the women and children except virgins, who were given to the Benjaminite men. But that wasn't enough to go around, so they went to Shiloh and carried off the young women there. Finally, all the Benjaminite men had wives and they lived happily ever after.

Well, maybe not happily, exactly. It appears no one thought to ask the women how they felt about the arrangement. In the OT world of the Jewish / Christian God, women were property, not people. (See Judges 21).

No, Jesus Does NOT Love the Little Children

How could the Christian God allow such treatment of women and children to be part of His inspired, infallible word? How could any Christian worship such a misogynistic God? Does that sound like a God of love? Anyone who thinks Jesus loves the little children hasn't read the OT.