

The Bible says that **God is love**¹. It's bound up in his very nature. He loves us unselfishly and passionately; and wants us to have that kind of relationship with himself and each other². But the Bible also says God hates all kinds of sin³. And there lies the problem: how can God still love us if he hates what we do?

God hates sin because of what it makes us – selfish, proud and rebellious – far short of the loving persons we were meant to be. Simple justice would condemn us as rejects who should be obliged to pay for our misdeeds.

But the damage is more than we could ever pay: so God, in the person of Jesus, paid the penalty himself on the cross (Calvary). All you need do to receive God's forgiveness is thank him for what Jesus has done for you and hand your life over to his control.⁴

¹ John 4:16 ² John 17:20-26 ³ 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 ⁴ 1 Peter 2:21-25

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