

Question

If God knew that Adam and Eve would sin, couldn't he have created them without the ability to sin?

Answer

First of all, proposing a “what if?” scenario is useless because it still will not change reality. Gravity causes things to fall toward the earth and sometimes people get hurt. Wishing it were somehow different will not solve the problem. The fact that we are fallen and live in a fallen world is the reality we all must live with.

God created human beings with a free will. Love demands that free will be exercised. Robots cannot love. We choose to love. What kind of love would it be if people had to be coerced against their will? God gave human beings freedom to choose or to reject him. Adam and Eve rejected God and the results were catastrophic.

The good news is that now, through Jesus Christ, the effects of the fall can be reversed. “God so loved the world that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:16). Anyone can make the choice today and be one of the “whoever’s” of John 3:16 by believing in Christ. Not only are we still blessed with a free will, but now we can use our freedom to grow in our relationship with God and others through what God has provided. The invitation is open to all.