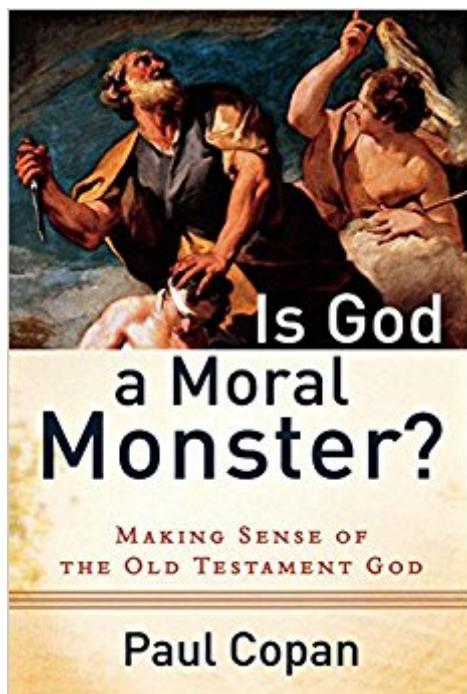


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# Is God A Moral Monster?: Making Sense Of The Old Testament God



## **Synopsis**

Leading apologetics writer with a proven track record tackles the most difficult Old Testament passages and topics, helping readers to reconcile the God of righteousness with the God of love.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Is the God of the Old Testament nothing but a bully, a murderer, and an oppressor? Many today--even within the church--seem to think so. How are Christians to respond to such accusations? And how are we to reconcile the seemingly disconnected natures of God portrayed in the two testaments? In this timely and readable book, apologist Paul Copan takes on some of the most vexing accusations of our time, including: God is arrogant and jealous; God punishes people too harshly; God is guilty of ethnic cleansing; God oppresses women; God endorses slavery; Christianity causes violence. Copan not only answers the critics, he also shows how to read both the Old and New Testaments faithfully, seeing an unchanging, righteous, and loving God in both. "This is the book I wish I had written myself. It is simply the best book I have read that tackles the many difficulties that the Old Testament presents to thinking and sensitive Christians. Paul Copan writes in such a simple, straightforward way, yet covers enormous issues comprehensively and with reassuring biblical detail and scholarly research."--Christopher J. H. Wright, international director, Langham Partnership International; author of *Old Testament Ethics for the People of God* "Lucid, lively, and very well informed, this book is the best defense of Old Testament ethics that I have

read. A must-read for all preachers and Bible study leaders."--Gordon Wenham, emeritus professor of Old Testament, University of Gloucestershire"The New Atheists have attacked the morality of the Old Testament with a vengeance. In honesty, many Christians will confess that they struggle with what looks like a primitive and barbaric ethic. Paul Copan helps us truly understand the world of the Old Testament and how it relates to us today."--Tremper Longman III, Robert H. Gundry Professor of Biblical Studies, Westmont College"Copan takes on current New Atheist biblical critics and powerfully addresses virtually every criticism they have raised. I know of no other book like this one, and it should be required reading in college and seminary courses."--J. P. Moreland, distinguished professor of philosophy, Talbot School of Theology; author of *The God Question*"There's virtually no scholar I'd rather read on these subjects than Paul Copan. This handbook of responses to tough ethical issues is able to both diminish the rhetoric as well as alleviate many concerns."--Gary R. Habermas, distinguished research professor, Liberty University and SeminaryPaul Copan (PhD, Marquette University) is the Pledger Family Chair of Philosophy and Ethics at Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida. He is the author or editor of many books, including *When God Goes to Starbucks*.

Paul Copan (PhD, Marquette University) is the Pledger Family Chair of Philosophy and Ethics at Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida. He is the author of several popular apologetics books, including *Is God a Moral Monster?* and lives with his wife and

I really enjoyed this book. It is an easy read but it answers the tough questions any thinking, Old Testament reader probably has.I believe this is a must-read for any Christian and especially anyone who critiques Christianity (because s/he believes the Old Testament can't possibly be accepted as the revelation of the theist God). At least, inform yourself before believing or disbelieving the reliability of that document (much can be said about this, but my suggestion is that you simply read this book before you decide what you believe about the Old Testament--give the book a fair hearing first).

I just finished it and have taken notes on the first 100 pages. I have been a believer for almost 50 years and I learned SO MUCH - no one every helped me understand half of these things before. Also, I "listen" to a lot of neo-atheists and the way the author represented them is exactly what I've found to be true, sorry to say. For a deep book, it's easy to read, which keeps surprising me.

What has been read in the book has been helpful. Dr. Copan's explanations of difficult passages has made sense of some passages that this reader didn't understand. The way he compares the Biblical text to other known religious laws at the same time allows the reader to see that the Biblical text is an advance in ethics. His explanations assist the reader to understand God's reasoning behind what appear to be morally questionable acts. Readers are assured that God directs His people to behave in morally superior ways when placed in comparison to their peers at the time.

The book answered a lot of difficult questions especially those posed by Atheists concerning God's laws as reflected in old testament. This book is useful in understanding the context in which old testament laws were applied and helps answering questions a lot of Christians ask. It is an excellent read for those who oppose and those who believe in the Bible. I personally found the book very powerful and helpful in confirming my faith in God of the Bible.

Good answers for those emotionally troubled by odd happenings of ancient eastern culture and how God related to those people.

I was taking a series of university classes on the Old Testament. This book does a great job of explaining and justifying the more violent and harsh texts in the Old Testament. As a Christian, I found this book to be faith affirming and it uses a very rational approach in helping me to deal with some of the most troublesome books of the Old Testament.

Does not explain his exposition on some scriptures. No backing on how he came to his interpretation of scripture. Otherwise an easy read with some core apologetics

It maybe because I'm a slow reader, but at times I found this book a bit long. However, overall I'm happy to have read it and look forward to reading through my notes on it again.

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