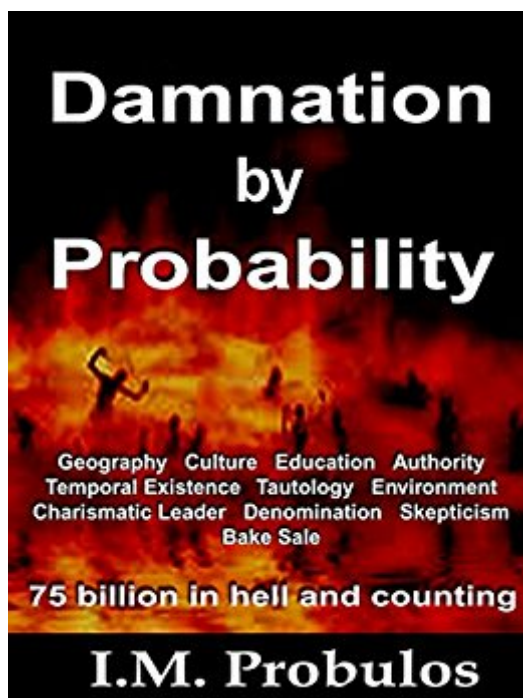


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Damnation By Probability: 75 Billion In Hell And Counting



Synopsis

With this book, I expand on a unique concept questioning religious exclusionism: Damnation by Probability (DBP). If you are interested in a shorter and updated version, please see Damnation by Bake Sale by the same author. It is over 200 pages shorter and updated for 2016. I have kept both books listed because this one has reviews, quite a large following, and it took about six months before it was noticed. Also I have a bet as to which title is "catchier." I will continue to update DBP and remove reported redundancies. However, I am still keeping my numerous "Damnation Bys." I do find them amusing and very serious at the same time and there are just so many ways to be damned. If you have specific feedback please send it to my email address on my website below. I am always improving and updating my Kindle books (over 20). I would hope that you would use the DBP argument the next time you debate someone who believes their faith is the only true faith. Your questions to the faithful would include: 1. How much time have you allocated to determining if another faith could be the one, true faith? 2. How much do you really know about other faiths, not taught to you by your family or clergy? 3. How much do you really know about other denominations, not taught to you by your family or clergy? In this book we approach damnation by the very highest viewpoint – that of a deity; the statistical level. In all there are dozens of damnations, including damnation by: 1. Geography 2. Being Born 3. Culture 4. Temporal Existence 5. Skeptical Nature 6. Wrong Missionary 7. Mental Illness 8. External Agent (lead, mercury) 9. Megachurch Scandals 10. Education 11. Income/Profession 12. Bake Sale (my personal favorite) Whether you are a Secular Humanist, liberal Christian, of another faith, or a hardcore evangelical Christian wanting to prove me wrong – I thank you for buying my book. In addition to having this on your Kindle to read anytime, you can download this E-book to your personal computer, Android phone, or iPad. It has a very long Appendix so you can read the first few chapters to see if the idea interests you or you wish to debate. I hope you enjoy this E-book and if so, please share it with your friends. You can contact me at my website: www.improbulos.com. You can also follow me on Twitter @improbulos. I. M. Probulos

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Customer Reviews

The premise here is that the vast majority of humans that are now living and ever have lived would be damned to Hell according to the mainstream Christian and Islamic religions. Even Christians or Muslims of one sect are considered to be worthy of eternal damnation by another sect. People in one sect consider that the only people not going to Hell are those in the exact same sect and who believe and practice the the exact same nuanced set of traditions and rites. The question is, would a God that you would want to worship set things up to work this way? The answer is that a God that set things up this way is probably not the loving and merciful God we like to envision from the Bible or the Koran, but instead is a wrathful and vindictive God as envisioned and created by much earlier civilizations. But would an omnipotent God need or want a place called Hell and would he design the world such that the vast majority of those created lovingly in his image will spend an eternity tormented by demons in payment for several decades (at the most) of sin. This eBook is generally insightful but but lacking in organization. Lists are scattered seemingly randomly throughout and one page seems totally unrelated to pages on either side. Subjects are often repeated as you work through the text. This would be much easier to follow if the basic topics had been grouped together logically rather than presented in what appears to be a stream of consciousness. My guess is this is a self-published eBook with no professional editorial oversight, and therefore reads a bit more amateurish than if it had been edited more carefully. Still, an interesting take on the logical consequences of accepting the doctrine of salvation as presented by both mainstream Christianity and Islam.

I liked the the book....but there were a few things kept me from loving it. Early on in the book I became weary of excess verbiage and repetition that the author used to try to drive home his points...the points were good/informative, but I would have preferred that he make them and move on instead of the torturous and protracted rehashing on every point. And there were a lot of typos in the Kindle version I read...I'm used to seeing some typos in the Kindle books, but in this one there were way too many...so many that it became a distraction. Worst of all in the section titled Top Reasons to be a Non-Believer I lost count of number of such reasons, each several sentences long, that were repeated verbatim....not only once but several times...don't understand how this could happen...it took a lot away from my enjoyment of the book. I can recommend the book...but, unless these problems are corrected in later versions, you might find these distractions annoying.

I'm only halfway through this book, but I can easily declare it a winner. It's a new approach using statistics, math and other undisputable facts to once again show the gullibility of people. This book shows how any of the many "gods" out there (if you actually believe in any of them), are doing an incredibly poor job of taking care of their "favorite creation", the human race. Every religion claims to be the one true religion with the one true god. How much thinking does it take to know that at the most, only one could be right, and possibly none. If you're religious I recommend this book, but only if you're willing to use your brain and not think that you already have all the answers. If you're an Atheist, this book will give you even more ammunition in the fight to release the world from the slavery of religion.

This book consists of two parts, the book proper and a somewhat jumbled appendix of related ideas. Criticized for not having his books better organized, the author said that he cannot afford to put more work into books that he sells so cheaply. This one, despite its problems, is well worth the cost. There is one serious problem, I could not get the tables to be readable, either on my iPhone or my Mac. Perhaps on an actual Kindle, this works better. It does not appear to be available as a book. They are not really necessary to the argument, but it is still a disappointment. Probulos makes an interesting and unusual argument here: how can a supposedly merciful God condemn 75 billion (as of 2014) members of his supposedly favorite creation to eternal torment in Hell? Particularly since, being omniscient, he knew in advance what would happen. The author refers to the omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent God as the O-O-O-God. Probulos argues that it all comes down to probabilities: being damned for being born in the wrong place, or before Jesus was born, or to people who believed the wrong things. Most people, about 68% picked the wrong parents. God is

a bungler, or indifferent to (or enjoys?) human suffering. The pious answer of course, is free will. Probulos doubts that it is really a free decision. What about the unevangelized? The devout argue that if they sincerely wanted to know God, he would reveal himself. But most of these are people who practice the faith they were raised in, so Probulos doubts that their sincerity can be seriously questioned. Most of them are decent, hardworking people – why do they deserved Hell? Moreover, he questions the actual existence of free will, given that we are products of our genetics, upbringing, social environment, etc. I could give him another reason to question free will based on my religious training. We were taught that no human being is capable of living without sin because of the effects of Original Sin, hence the Virgin Mary's Immaculate Conception in Catholic doctrine. This strikes me as very unfair, and if baptism wipes away Original Sin, implausible. Apparently, baptism only partially wipes away Original Sin. I do wish to make one caveat on behalf of my former co-religionists, and by logical extension, on behalf of atheists and agnostics. Maybe it's something in his background, but Probulos goes off on a tangent and argues that Protestants, believing in salvation by faith, don't have to do good works, while Catholics and Mormons do. In the first place, Calvinism's belief in predestination is not shared by all Protestants, and I have my doubts as to how many Protestants actually believe that good works don't count toward salvation. Faith is supposed to put the believer in a state of grace that inspires good works; Luther said that a person who is not constantly doing good works obviously isn't saved. Protestants also build hospitals, help the poor, fight for justice; the sect I was raised in particularly focused on education. But if Probulos believes that about Protestants, one would logically conclude that he agrees with theists who argue that atheists/agnostics are amoral and don't do good work because they aren't assuming any afterlife. What was Probulos thinking? He's making a pretty good argument against himself here -- does he ever do good works? Probulos is quoting a canard like the argument that Catholics can get away with murder because all they have to do is confess, or Jews can get away with murder because they don't believe in an afterlife, etc., etc. I imagine that most religions have a little stock of libels and slanders about their rivals. Maybe I should reduce the number of stars. . . A very interesting, and in the main book, well argued position, even without the tables. The appendix, if not as effective, is still interesting.

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