

# The Shack

*An Interpretive Review by Pastor Luke Biggs*

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## Unit 3

### I. Introduction – “Proof”

### II. Recap

- Source of Evil
- Judgment
- Forgiveness
- Reconciliation
- Heaven
- Hell
- Universalism

### III. Key Theme: “Source of Evil”

- God should not allow evil to happen to people who love Him!

Question: Why?

Answer: Relationship!

### IV. Key Theme: “Forgiveness”

### V. Key Theme: “You Judge!”

- Forgiveness is not a part of our natural man/self.
- Retaining the sins of others without the offer of forgiveness, places ones self into bondage.
- There is one place for the retention of sin.
- The reception/acceptance of forgiveness is outside of the forgiver’s control.
- Forgiveness is a part of, yet distinct from reconciliation/relationship.

### VI. Key Theme: “Reconciliation/Unionism”

Questions:

1. According to the dialogue, does God ever judge/punish people?
2. Is everyone saved?
3. What is the role of man’s choice in reconciliation with God?

4. Is there a Hell?
5. Do all roads lead to salvation?

Dialogue:

1. Regarding question #1 (punishment): The passive vs. active view of punishment.

Relevant Scripture:

- ✓ Genesis 3
- ✓ Romans 1:18
- ✓ Revelation 19:15

2. Regarding question #2 (are all saved):

Critical: The distinction between redemption and conversion

OR objective justification vs. subjective justification.

Question: Does the book represent this well?

Answer: Here the book is confusing and unclear.

3. Regarding question #3 (choice/reconciliation):

Question: The question is conversion - how the work of Christ becomes applied to an individual.

Answer: Here the book consistently makes conversion out to be a free-will choice of man.

4. Regarding question #4 (Hell): Do some choose "no" or... is there a hell?

Question: Why this question is so important: Post modern America (inclusive of many Christians) has rejected the Biblical teaching of Hell!

Answer: In the book:

- ✓ There is no overt denial of Hell.
- ✓ In fact, there is no mention of Hell.
- ✓ Clues in the book would indicate that the author subscribes to post modern ideology: No Hell!

5. Regarding question #5 (do all roads lead to salvation/heaven):

Question: This belief has a name – Unionism

Answer: In the book:

- ✓ The author is not overtly unionistic.
- ✓ However, all of the books clues suggest he is.

VII. Conclusion: