



Show Me
*Your
Glory*

Message 5

Longsuffering

Exodus 34:6-7

6 And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth,

7 "keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."

What is God Like?

- The revelation you receive as you study Scripture and encounter Jesus, the image of the invisible God, is shocking.
 - God is better than we deserve.
 - God is better than we ever imagined.

Exodus 34:6

- Merciful
- Gracious
- Longsuffering
- Abounding in Goodness
- Abounding in Truth



(and Jesus is the proof)

Longsuffering

- This word speaks to the idea of God's anger or God's wrath.
- God speaks up and says, "I want people to know that I am slow to anger."

Word Picture for Anger

- Speaks of nose, nostril, face, heat, esp conveying anger
- Picture the flaring of nostrils
- Picture of nose or face getting hot
- Idea of “burning anger” or
 - Hot Headed or Hot Tempered



Longsuffering

- Long ---suffering
 - God has patience with us.
 - God puts up with a lot from us.
- God defers harsh judgments as long as possible.

Slow to Anger

Keep These Two Together...

Romans 11:22

Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God....

- In context, with God “cutting off” Israel for a season and a warning to the Gentiles.

Scripture presents both sides of God to us.

Truth

- You can live in the goodness of God, if you choose.

Or

- You can experience the severe judgment of God, if you choose.

Choices have consequences!

Is God a Monster?

- Many view God as vengeful, angry, wrathful God, living on edge ready to smite folks.
- Critics often extract the stories of God's judgment from Scripture and paint a caricature of God – emphasizing His wrath.

First Mention of God's Anger

Exodus 4:14

So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and He said: "Is not Aaron the Levite your brother? I know that he can speak well. And look, he is also coming out to meet you. When he sees you, he will be glad in his heart.

- Why was God angry with Moses?
- What did God do with His anger towards Moses?

Genesis 6:5-7...The Flood Story

5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

6 And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

7 So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."

**The emotion God feels in Genesis 6 is not anger –
it is grief.**

The Flood Story

- God saw what was happening and allowed Creation **to collapse** on itself.
 - Opposite of Genesis 1 happened.....**De-Creation**
 - Life does NOT work **without God**.
- God basically **accelerated** the destruction that mankind had chosen.

Faith Lesson

- God is grieved when humans violently **mistreat** one another. God will intervene.
 - His **Love** demands it.
- What if God did nothing? Would that be love?
- Btw, God is criticized from both directions – if He does nothing or something.
- God had been patient for about **1,000 years**

The Hardening of Pharoah's Heart

Story of the 10 plagues. With the 10th plague being the death of the firstborn.

Why such a severe judgment?

Note: This is a 400+ year saga playing out.

God dealing with Pharoah

Text speaks of Pharoah hardening his heart.

Text speaks of God hardening Pharoah's heart.

Hardening = Stubbornness
Hardening = to make heavy

Pharoah Hardening

Exodus 7:13-14, 22

Exodus 8:15, 19, 32

Exodus 9:34

God Hardening

**Exodus 9:12 (6th
plague)**

Exodus 10:20, 27

Exodus 11:10

Psalm 81:10-16

Jeremiah 5:21-25

Thoughts

1) **People harden** their hearts toward God.

- God urges people to repent and return to Him.

2) **God hardens** people's hearts when people refuse to return to Him.

- God often **gives them over** to their own desires (Rom 1)
- God withdraws His influence & blessing.

Kinda like dealing with a rebellious teen or adult child.

Did Jesus ever get angry? Or speak of severe judgment? Was Jesus an angry man?

Driving them out of The Temple

The “Woes” to the Scribes & Pharisees

The warnings of impending judgment when He sits on The Throne and judges the nations.

God is Longsuffering.
God is Slow to Anger.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.