



Show Me
Your
Glory

Message 8
Forgiving
& Just

Hosea 4:6

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

- **Scripture contains the most important kind of knowledge a person can ever have.**
- **Ignorance is not bliss --what you don't know may be killing you.**

Romans 12:2

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Repent = change of mind

Exodus 34:6

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

Exodus 34:6

- Merciful = full of compassion
- Gracious = full of love, kind, giving
- Longsuffering = slow to anger, patient
- Abounding in Goodness = loyal love
- Abounding in Truth = trustworthy, faithful

**Jesus came to reveal all this to us!
(and more)**

Exodus 34:7

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."

How does God put up with us?

**Esp, since we've all sinned and rebelled
against God. (repeatedly)**

(vs 7) describes 2 Ways God deals with our sin...

1) Forgive you

2) “by no means clearing the guilty”
& “visiting the iniquity” upon you

You & I get to choose which one we want.

Forgiving

- God has a **forgiving nature**! (Good News)
- **Jesus** came to show us how forgiving God actually is.
 - God stands ready & willing to forgive all those who cry out to Him in repentance.
 - **New Covenant**: Forgiveness of sins through Jesus

Ephesians 1:7-10*

Ephesians 1:7-10

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

8 which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence,

9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,

10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth--in Him.

Forgiving

=

lift off (like a heavy weight)

lift up (out of the way)

carry away (from you)

take away (remove)

Forgiving

Lift off, Carry away what?

1) Iniquity

= the sin, along with the guilt & punishment associated with sin

Forgiving

Lift off, Carry away what?

2) Transgression

= breach of trust, broken relationship, it's a willful, rebellious choice to sin against God or authority. Speaks of Sin against someone that destroys a relationship.

Forgiving

Lift off, Carry away what?

3) Sin

= wickedness, evil or wrong that offends God, idea of “missing the mark or target”

Option #2 – Two Descriptive Phrases

“by no means clearing the guilty”

&

“visiting the iniquity” upon you

- Idea of not clearing or excusing your guilt, giving you the justice you deserve
- Letting the full weight of your rebellion against God fall upon your own head
- Visiting = count, command or charge (like a Judge)

What are the wages of sin?

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is **death**, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Physical Death
- “Deadly” consequences of sin
- Spiritual Death
- Eternal Death

Curious Phrases

- **"keeping mercy for thousands"**
- **"visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."**

Quote from Exodus 20:5-6

5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

6 but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Kinda Poetically Stated

Did you hear the numbers?

Mercy to 1000's (who love Me)

Charging Guilty to 3rd & 4th generations

Which is greater?

Which do you think God prefers?

James 2:13*

James 2:13

Mercy triumphs over
judgment.

Sin & Generational Problems

Does the sin of fathers & mothers have an effect on their children and grandchildren?

Consequences can be far-reaching
Generational Curses & Generational
Patterns

Generational Blessing

When does the sinful generational pattern continue?

When the children choose to commit the same sins as their parents

At this point, who's sins will the child pay for?

Ezekiel 18:1-4*

Ezekiel 18:1-4

1 The word of the LORD came to me again, saying,

2 "What do you mean when you use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying: **'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, And the children's teeth are set on edge'**?"

3 "As I live," says the Lord GOD, "**you shall no longer use this proverb in Israel.**"

4 "Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father As well as the soul of the son is Mine; **The soul who sins shall die.**"

God is **Consistent**

No Favortism

Reliable, Dependable

No surprises or tricks

Everyone will be judged **righteously**

How are consequences for sin handed out?

- **Consequences** in this life

- Can be personal, or widespread, even national depending on the situation
- “**handed them over**”, turned over to enemies
- Weather pattern changes, corrupt leaders in charge, perverse sexual immorality taking over, violence, etc

How are consequences for sin handed out?

- **Accelerated** consequences when God speeds the process – like at the Flood
- **Intervening Severely** – Sodom, Korah's rebellion, Babylonian Exile, Ananias & Sapphira
- The **Final Judgment**

2 Options

1) Be Forgiven

2) Come under the Justice & Wrath of God

God is forgiving & just