

Is He A Loving God Or An Angry God?

Another story about a God I don't like?

2 Samuel 21:1-14

Questions that have answers:

Q: Why does God take His **NAME** and **REPUTATION** much more **SERIOUSLY** than we do?

A: Because it is only by this **NAME** and **REPUTATION** that we get our **SALVATION**.

Q: What does an **ANCIENT** story about **COVENANTS** have to do with us today?

A: We are now the kingdom of **PRIESTS** and the **TEMPLE** of the **HOLY SPIRIT**.

Q: Why is the Old Testament filled with such **BLOODY** stories of **SACRIFICES**?

A: In a **JUST** system, **FORGIVENESS** can never be **FREE**; a wrong against God has to be **PAID IN FULL**.

Fact: We all **WANT** and **NEED** a **FATHER** who keeps His promises and who will always be **FAITHFUL**.

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2 Samuel 21:1-14

Questions that have answers:

Q: Why does God take His _____ and _____
much more _____ than we do?

A: Because it is only by this _____ and _____
that we get our _____.

Q: What does an _____ story about _____
have to do with us today?

A: We are now the kingdom of _____ and the
_____ of the _____.

Q: Why is the Old Testament filled with such
_____ stories of _____?

A: In a _____ system, _____ can never be _____;
a wrong against God has to be _____.

Fact: We all _____ and _____ a _____ who keeps His promises
and who will always be _____.

Life Group Study Questions

For the week of October 16, 2022

QUICK REVIEW

What stood out to you most from what you heard or read in this weekend's message?

MY STORY

1. From the passage this weekend, we learned about the importance of God's reputation to the world. When it comes to your own reputation, as you think toward the end of your life, is there a newspaper headline (or a phrase at your memorial service) that you would want to represent your reputation?

2. This weekend, we learned about the importance of how we live and its impact on the world around us. As you reflect on your childhood, what was your experience of Christians you interacted with? How did this interaction impact your view of God and/or the church?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. This weekend, we saw the consequences of Saul's disobedience toward the Gibeonites by not honoring the covenant of protection made by Joshua. As followers of Jesus, how we live and love those around us greatly impacts their view of who God is. Read 1 Peter 2:9-16 and notice the importance God puts on our Christian reputation and how He wants us to interact with those who don't yet know Him.

1 Peter 2:9-16 New International Version (NIV)

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

¹³ Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴ or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.

When you think about your workplace/family/hobbies/friend circles/neighborhood, make a list of some things that are accepted by our culture but go against God's desires for how we live (i.e., win at all costs, how we use our words, alcohol overuse, turning a blind eye, etc.).

As you look at your list, what things are easy for you to go against culture on? Is there one that may be more of a challenge for you?

For the item that may be a struggle, what are some ways we can overcome that struggle or temptation? Make a list as a group.

2. Chris taught this weekend that, as Christ followers, we are now the kingdom of priests and the temple of the Holy Spirit. As we have heard often in this series, the psalms are the soundtrack to the biblical story we have been studying. Read what David wrote in Psalm 15 about the character we are to represent to the world. Take note of how we are to live out the five areas of our lives below.

Psalm 15 New International Version (NIV)

Areas of Our Lives

¹ *LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent?*

Who may live on your holy mountain?

_____ **Our integrity**

² *The one whose walk is blameless,*

who does what is righteous,

who speaks the truth from their heart;

_____ **Our words**

³ *whose tongue utters no slander,*

who does no wrong to a neighbor,

and casts no slur on others;

_____ **Our attitude toward others**

⁴ *who despises a vile person*

but honors those who fear the LORD;

who keeps an oath even when it hurts,

and does not change their mind;

_____ **Our commitments**

⁵ *who lends money to the poor without interest;*

who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

_____ **Our finances and business practices**

Whoever does these things

will never be shaken.

Based on the five areas above, how would you evaluate yourself on a scale of 1-5? (5 – an area of strength & 1 – an opportunity for growth)

Can you think of someone who, by their actions, has positively lived out one of the areas above in such a way that it had an impact on your faith? If yes, how so?

TAKING IT HOME

Can you think of someone God has placed in your life on whom you can have a positive impact for Christ?

PRAYER REQUESTS

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NORTH COAST CHURCH
MEN'S CONFERENCE

NORTH COAST MEN'S CONFERENCE

Join us Friday evening, October 28 & Saturday morning, October 29, for the second North Coast Men's Conference held at the Vista Campus! Come enjoy teaching led by pastors Chris Brown and Ricky Jenkins, along with worship, activities and tourneys! Register at

northcoastchurch.com/mens-conference/.