

# God of justice and mercy

## His mercy and his justice

*Exodus 34:6-7*

*The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."*

## What is love?

The word love in English is pretty much useless. I love football, I love marvel and I love my wife. We use it for preference and for the deepest most important relationships we have on this earth.

Love in the scriptures is not a feeling but a covenant. It's an action that seeks the well being of another, no matter what they do. Why? Because I made a covenant/ a promise.

God is committed to maintaining covenant commitment with people that He knows are going to be faithless and turn away from him. How? By forgiveness- it flows from who he is, it is not a reluctant option rather an expression of who He is.

## Forgiveness

— Forgiving- pickup or carrying

When we fail- it is not a slip and then its over. the Bible portrays sin as this real thing out there in the world that ripples out.

## Forgiveness or will not clear the guilty

*Exodus 34:7*

*forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."*

*Deuteronomy 24:16*

*Fathers shall not be put to death because of their children, nor shall children be put to death because of their fathers."*

*Leviticus 26:40–42*

*But if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers in their treachery that they committed against me, and also in walking contrary to me, so that I walked contrary to them and brought them into the land of their enemies—if then their uncircumcised heart is humbled and they make amends for their iniquity, then I will remember my covenant with Jacob, and I will remember my covenant with Isaac and my covenant with Abraham, and I will remember the land.*

### **Exodus 32 Story Recap**

- Corrupt people straying from the path
- I have seen this people and they are stiff necked
- Destruction of people.

### **Noah- Covenant of Mercy**

- Corrupt people straying from the path
- God saw that the wickedness of mans heart and that every intention was evil.
- Destruction of people

Mercy is introduced- *"I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Genesis 8:21*

### **Adam- Covenant of Justice/ works**

Those who have sinned were immediately punished.

- When Adam ate from the tree, the earth was cursed.
- When Cain killed his brother Abel, he was forced to be a wanderer.
- when the whole world grew corrupt, it was destroyed.

Why? Because the intents of man's heart were evil. Through the strict lens of justice, they deserved their fate.

But for the very same reason that God destroyed the world, after the flood He recreated it through the lens of mercy, the lens of love. Knowing mankind's flaw, that the designs of his heart are evil, God recreated a world of unconditional love to rehabilitate mankind, and lead them back to Him.

### **The New Covenant/ Covenant of a new nature- Jer 31:31**

*Isiah 56:3*

Let not the foreigner who has joined himself to the Lord say,  
"The Lord will surely separate me from his people";  
and let not the eunuch say,  
"Behold, I am a dry tree."

Jesus established a new covenant- one that is better because it is not temporal but eternal.

One that not only provides forgiveness but provides a new nature

*Hebrews 10:22*

*let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.*