

The Justice of God & the Gospel

Exodus 33:12–34:9

I. The Ominous Backdrop: The Sin of God's People (32:1–33:11)

II. Three Audacious Requests: The Prayer of God's Mediator (33:12-23)

A. The Three Requests

1. For the Promise of His Presence – “Go with us” (12, 14-17)
2. For the Knowledge of His Character – “Let me know Your ways” (13, 19b)
3. For a Display of His Glory – “Show me Your glory” (18-19a, 20-23)

B. The Only Grounds (19c)

III. God's Gracious Revelation: The Explanation of God's Name (34:1-7)

A. God Is Holy (1-4)

B. God Is Great (5-6a)

C. God is Good (6b-7a)

1. **In His Attributes—Who He Is (6)**
 - a. Compassionate (6)
 - b. Gracious (6)
 - c. Slow to Anger (6)
 - d. Abounding in Lovingkindness & Truth (6)

2. In His Actions—What He Does (7a)

The Two Groups in Exodus 34:7

“Those who love Me”

- The guilty who believe in Yahweh as their God, trust solely in His grace, repent of their sins, and seek His forgiveness, and having found forgiveness, love God and show their repentance and love by obeying His Word.

“Those who hate Me”

- The guilty who remain unrepentant and demonstrate hatred for God by continual disobedience and a refusal to turn from their sins and plead for His grace and forgiveness.

- a. “[He] keeps lovingkindness for thousands” (7a).
- b. “[He] forgives iniquity, transgression and sin” (7a).

D. God is Just (7b)

1. 7b – “Yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished.”

Not One Sin Ever Escapes God’s Notice!

1. God knows every sinful **act** (Ps. 90:8).
 2. God knows every sinful **habit** (Pr. 5:21).
 3. God knows every sinful **word** (Mt. 12:36).
 4. God knows every sinful **thought & motive** (Heb. 4:12-13).
2. 7b – “Visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.”

The Great Enigma of the OT

1. God leaves some of the guilty unpunished and forgives their iniquity, transgression, and sin (7a).
2. He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished (7b).

The Solution to the Great Enigma

1. Announced in the OT by Isaiah
 - God imputes or credits the sins of believers to the Servant and punishes Him in their place (Is. 53:4-6, 8, 10-12).
 - God imputes the righteousness of the Servant (9) to those He represented (Is. 53:11b).
2. Accomplished in the NT by Christ (Jn. 1:14, 16-17; 1 Pet. 2:24)

IV. The Obvious Response: The Exaltation of God's Person (34:8-9)

A. Humility & Submission (8a)

B. Worship (8b)

C. Prayer (9)