

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

The Lord Will Come . . . Perhaps Today . . . Behold, I Come Quickly . . . Rev. 22:7

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Thankful For The Unbiased Attributes Of God's Love

Introduction

There is only one attribute of God which is repeated in triplicate twice over. It is "Holy, holy, holy" (Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8). Among His many other attributes, which are revealed to us in the Scriptures, are some we may not readily think about. One of them is His unbiased character. I would expect the majority of humanity are biased in one way or another. We have a "respect to persons". Those who are wealthy etc. are held in higher regard. If one is being introduced to a notable celebrity in education, medicine, or entertainment, respect is shown to them that never would be shown to us commoners. God is not like that. In fact, the expression "Without respect to persons" is used five times in the scriptures regarding God to humanity (2 Chron. 19:7; Rom. 2:11; Eph. 6:9; Col. 3:25; 1 Pet. 1:17) and three times regarding human to human (Prov. 24:23; 28:21; Jam. 2:1).

It is regarding these truths that we draw great comfort and security from the fact that God does not change. He had it recorded, "I am the LORD, I change not" (Mal. 3:6), therefore, He is unchanging in His kindness, judgment, and love.

His Unbiased Kindness

His unbiased kindness is conveyed when our Lord said, "He (God) maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust" (Matt. 5:45). He provides salvation for the "whosoever" irrespective of country, climate, culture. It is a fact declared in scripture:

- a) John wrote, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (Jn. 3:16).
- b) Matthew wrote, "It is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish" (Matt. 18:14).
- c) Peter wrote, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Pet. 3:9).

His Unbiased Judgment

Whether it is when dealing with the saved, unsaved, or both, the Lord is completely unbiased for all are judged according to their works. The believer is judged according to them (1 Cor. 3:13, 14, 15) and the unsaved are judged according to them (Rev. 20:12, 13). At this point we must be abundantly clear, these works have nothing to do with obtaining salvation. Salvation is the "gift of God".

- a) "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23)
- b) "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8)

Salvation is a gift, no works of any human, no position of any religious leader nor penance for any individual will ever make one suitable for their acceptance with God and Heaven, for God says, “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost” (Titus 3:5).

- a) These works are those committed by believers AFTER salvation, and the unbeliever BEFORE salvation. The ultimate work for which a person is accepted or rejected by God is, “Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent” (Jn. 6:29). Note that it is not a work of man but of God, and eternal life is only through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- b) This is illustrated in the Old Testament by the narrative concerning Cain and Abel. Cain was a hard working industrious husbandman and came to God seeking acceptability by offering the best he could produce. It was very hard work growing the best of fruits and vegetables for the ground was cursed, but all his works could not eradicate his guilt before God. The scriptures teach, “by grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God (Eph. 2:8). For acceptability before God there had to be the death of an innocent victim. Abel offered an animal for his acceptability because it was a sacrifice given by God (for the animal was of God’s provision) and He approached God according to God’s way of acceptability.

His Unbiased Love

- 1) There are untold millions who will be in hell, not because they were not loved by God but because they would not accept His way of salvation. With God it is an “either” or “or”. Frank Sinatra sang, “I’ll do it my way” but that does not apply to God’s salvation. In God’s determination it is:
 - a) Either accept the sacrifice of Christ alone or reject it as the only way of salvation
 - b) Either choose to accept Christ as Lord and Saviour or choose to spend eternity in Hell
 - c) Either 100% dependence on Christ and His work for eternal life or depend on ones works which ends in eternal death
 - i) The choice is the individuals and it can only be made in life.
- 2) What is love and how is it shown to be unbiased?
 - a) God’s love is beyond all comprehension. Neither infernal, celestial or terrestrial minds can comprehend it nor describe it. The reason is very simple, it is because love is the very essence of God for John informs us, “God is love” (1 Jn. 4:16).
 - b) No one could describe God. All that can be done is to muse on His attributes, characteristics and decrees. However, in a small degree we can understand the richness of God’s love by what it gives, what it endures, and what it bestows.
 - i) What it gives:
 1. God gave the Son of His only Beloved Son (Jn. 3:16). How beautiful are the words, “For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life” (Rom. 5:6-10).
 - ii) What it endures:
 1. What did Christ endure to show His love to us and His Father? He endured the undiluted judgment of God for my sins, for three long hours of indescribable pain and suffering He endured that which each of us should endure for our sins. If ever there was hell on earth, it was when the Lord was forsaken by God in the three hours of darkness (Matt. 27:45, 46).
 - ii) What it bestows:
 1. What does it bestow without works? It bestows the free gift of eternal life, which is not just living forever, but living the abundant life which is far beyond our comprehension (Jn. 10:10).
- 3) God’s love:
 - a) God’s love is a unique and incomparable love.
 - i) John has no words to express the worth, height and depth of God’s love. That is why he just describes this love with the word “so”. “For God **SO** loved the world”. In his epistle he says, “BEHOLD, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us” (1 Jn. 3:1). The Lord has a greater love than the love of our mother, father or friends (Isa. 49:15, 16).

- b) God's love is beyond description for God Himself is Love (1 Jn. 4:8, 16).
- i) How could any human, no matter how high the IQ or understanding, comprehend the transcendence of the Divine. With so many things of the material universe, the starry universe, the physical universe being unknown to humanity, how could one comprehend the fullness of God or any of His attributes?
- c) God's love is completely unmerited.
- i) To those who would argue (and still would declare) that there is some spark of the divine in man or some inheritant goodness, the Holy Spirit will take fourteen references from the Holy Scriptures to show how undeserving man is toward any mercy or grace from God (Rom. 3:10-18; 5:5-10). God's love is fully manifested when we were utterly hostile against God and His purposes. A person who seeks to gain God's favour by good works, admirable as they are in themselves, are nothing short of the possible ultimate insult to God and the preciousness of the blood sacrifice of His Son.

Concluding Thoughts

I am so grateful that God is unchanging in His love. His is a love that is precious and unending (Psa. 36:7); steadfast and enduring (Psa. 136:26), and quiets the spirit by the recollection of His love (Zeph. 3:17).

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