

GOSPEL OF A RIGHTEOUS JUDGE

BIBLE STUDY BY JAMIE MCNAB

27/6/15

God is Love. God is Righteous. His righteousness trumps His love. There is no fear of God almost anywhere. Leaders just "thumb their noses" at God.

We should have a deep awe and respect for our God. We should remember "who God is".

Matthew 10:25-28

It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household! Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

Jesus Teaches the Fear of God

"Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. **And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.** (Gehenna ... Hell fire)

Hebrews 10:26-31

For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, (setting your will to go a different way) but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. **Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?** For we know Him who said, **"Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,"** says the Lord. And again, "The Lord will judge His people."

Philippians 2:12-13

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;** for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

Proverbs 9:10

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 16:6

In mercy and truth
Atonement is provided for iniquity;
And **by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil.**

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter:

Fear God and keep His commandments,

For this is man's all.

For God will bring every work into judgment,

Including every secret thing,

Whether good or evil.

Conclusion: FEAR GOD. Why? Because God will bring every work into judgment ... good or evil. And ... He is a righteous judge. He cannot do anything wrong. He cannot pretend He doesn't see any wrongdoing. Every work will be brought into judgment. God is a Holy God.

2 Corinthians 6:15 - 7:1

And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

"I will dwell in them

And walk among them.

I will be their God,

And they shall be My people.”

Therefore

“Come out from among them

And be separate, says the Lord.

Do not touch what is unclean,

And I will receive you.”

“I will be a Father to you,

And you shall be My sons and daughters,

Says the Lord Almighty.”

Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. (Be Holy. Be separate!!)

Hebrews 12:14-15

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

We should take our calling seriously. Not be yoked to people in the world. We are battling against the crowd.

Jesus loves us ... The Called.

Matthew 5:27-30

“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. (Gehenna ... hell fire) And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

This is serious. Make sure you do everything to do what is right. Don't be sloppy, casual, airy-fairy, anything goes. Fear God.

Most evangelists today focus on God's unconditional love ... God hates the sin, loves the sinners. They preach that is the most important thing.

However, **Jesus was THE BIG PREACHER ON PUNISHMENT ... GEHENNA.**

Of the 12 times it is mentioned in the New Testament ... 11 occasions were from Jesus ... and one from his half brother, James, in James 3:6

Matthew 25:14-15

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.

Matthew 25:22-30

He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

"Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'

"But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.

For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.

And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' (Jesus said there is a consequence for being wicked and lazy).

Nothing in the Book of Matthew about the Love of God ... but plenty about the punishment that is coming on certain people.

Matthew 13:36-43

Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."

He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

The Bible says surprisingly little about The Love of God. Where it is mentioned ... it is mentioned to believers. Not mentioned to practising sinners.

In God's universe ... the punishment will meet the crime.

The Book of Luke doesn't mention The Love of God.

Luke 12:35-48

"Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning; and you yourselves be like men who wait for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately.

Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them. And if he

should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Then Peter said to Him, "Lord, do You speak this parable only to us, or to all people?"

And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has. But if that servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and be drunk, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.

(This is what will happen to those who aren't faithful ... probably applying to ministers)

And that servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few.

(The punishment will fit the crime perfectly. Punishment will vary. Nobody escapes!!) For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.

Anyone sensible will have a healthy fear of God. If people only hear about the love of God ... they are not hearing the whole story of God. What the Apostles and disciples did teach on was The Righteousness of God.

Romans 1:15-17

So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it (The Gospel) the righteousness of God is revealed from

faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith." (Habitually living by faith)

Romans 1:18

God's Wrath on Unrighteousness

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Romans 1:26-32

For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

The Apostle Paul in the Book of Romans (considered his greatest work) ... over 7,000 words ... only mentioned the Love of God 5 times.

Romans 2:4-10

Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? **But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of**

God, who “will render to each one according to his deeds”: eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honour, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; but glory, honour, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 11:17-22

And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.

You will say then, “Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in.” Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. **Do not be haughty, but fear.** For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either. **Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God:** on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

Don't be complacent! Don't get lazy!!

In the Book of Acts we see what the Apostles and evangelists preached. The Love of God is not mentioned once!! That's odd as that is what is normally preached today in the “professing Christian world”.

Acts 26:14-18

And when we all had fallen to the ground, I heard a voice speaking to me and saying in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ So I said, ‘Who are You, Lord?’ And He said, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and

of the things which I will yet reveal to you. I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.' (This was Paul's commission.)

Acts 26:19-20

"Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, **that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.** (Live properly ... repent!!)

Acts 24:24-25

And after some days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. **Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid** and answered, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you."

Acts 17:22-25

Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription:

TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.

Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.

Acts 17:28-34

for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.' Therefore, since we are the

offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising. Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, **but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained.** He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked, while others said, "We will hear you again on this matter." So Paul departed from among them. However, some men joined him and believed, (a few were converted) among them Dionysius the Areopagite, a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Righteous judgment is coming. In the new heavens and the new earth, only righteousness will dwell. God has made provision for everyone who wills, to be there. Every sin and wrongdoing can be forgiven. All fully paid for ... if the offer is accepted. If not, wrath abides on unrepentant sinners.