



10 July 2022

# **The Glorious Gospel: God's Long-Suffering**

**Genesis 6:1-12**

Luke 13:6-9; 2 Peter 3:14-18

## **Pressing Forward into 2022**

- Our goals
- What are we doing to pursue our goals?
  - Catechism Questions and Meditation
  - Scripture Memorization and Meditation

## **What have we heard?**

- The glorious gospel reveals who God is, what He has done, is doing and what He will do.
- "Cain's way" our goal is not to be religious but to grow in knowing God  
- Jude 11

## **God's long-suffering character is revealed in the Generations**

- The genealogy and timeline from Adam to Noah reveal God's character of slowness to anger which was evident for over 1000 years! - Genesis 5
- Long-suffering in the Bible is made up of two Greek words meaning "long" and "temper"; literally, "long-tempered."
- To be longsuffering, is to have self-restraint when one is stirred to anger.
- For God to be long-suffering it means that He is slow to anger - Psalms 145:8
- God's long-suffering is associated with grace and mercy - 1 Peter 3:20
- God is the source of long-suffering because it is part and has been part of His character - Malachi 4:6, Exodus 34:6, Numbers 14:18-20, Romans 2:4
- Consider the mercy of God in the first sin as seen in  
- Genesis 3:21 - For Adam and his wife Eve the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

- Genesis 4:14-15 - God in His kindness and mercy, hears Cain's cry and extends mercy to Him.

## **Man's wickedness despite God's Long-suffering**

- We are living in comparable period as the ancient times - Ecclesiastes 1:9
  - The Signs based on ancient times:
    - "As in the days of Noah" - Mathew 24:37-39
    - Wickedness seen during pre-flood periods Genesis 6:1-12
  - The Signs based on current times:
    - Men are given over to debased minds and evil - Romans 1:29-31
    - The last days, the perilous times will come and are here - 2 Timothy 3:2-5
    - Wickedness seen through glorified abortions, same-sex marriage etc.
- God is long-suffering with the unthankful and the evil not only for thousands of years but even momentarily - Luke 6:32-35, Jeremiah 6:15
- His creation is continually evil in thoughts and actions despite His long-suffering character - Ecclesiastes 8:11, 1 John 3:4

## **The Long-suffering of God is not everlasting**

- The Long-suffering and mercy of God is not everlasting - Numbers 14:18
- In the New Testament, the parable of the barren fig tree is a picture of bearing fruit and the long-suffering of God - Luke 13:6-9
- God's wrath is kindled by sin - Romans 1:18, Colossians 3:6
- The wrath of God abides with those who dwell in wickedness - Colossians 3:6, Ephesians 5:6, Romans 9:22
- The wrath of God was abiding among the people of the earth in the generations prior to the flood. God hates the wicked - Psalms 50:16-23, Psalms 11:5
- The wrath of God is pictured by:
  - Christ and the cross, "the hour". Jesus was primarily the object of his Father's wrath because of a sinful world - Isaiah 53:5-6, John 3:16
  - Hell - Mathew 10:28
- All sins must be quenched with justice because: -
  - God is the Lawgiver. He will punish lawlessness - Isaiah 13:11

- God is holy. Sin separates us from God and He wants us to pursue holiness - Isaiah 59:1-2.
- He is patient with sinners. At the same time, God's long-suffering will come to an end, as seen in the flood, and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah - Genesis 6,18,19
- God's anger is being held back because the Lord is slow to anger. He wants us to come to repentance - 2 Peter 3:9, Joel 2:13, Ezekiel 20:17
- Wickedness and blessedness contrasted - Psalms 1, Psalms 11:5

## **Gift of Grace through Jesus Christ**

- All sins attract God's wrath and punishment. Jesus Christ quenched God's Justice - Romans 3:25, Romans 8:32
- The long-suffering of God should move us to salvation through His Son Jesus Christ - 2 Peter 3:15, Matthew 1:21, Hebrews 6:9, 1 Timothy 4:13
- By faith we have been justified and have peace with God through Jesus Christ. Enoch is an example of such faith as seen in the Old Testament - Romans 5:1, Hebrews 11:4-5
- Because of sin we all must die, but those who walk with God have the hope of eternal life through Christ Jesus - Romans 6:23
- " • In the face of a wicked world full of evil, Jesus comes and through Him we receive grace - 1 Timothy 2:4-6
- This gift of grace that we have received requires us to examine ourselves and respond to the gospel. Are you in Jesus? - Romans 10:13, John 3:16
- Remember the great and dreadful day of the Lord. How will He find us? - Zephaniah 1
- Notice that Noah's preaching was not global. We are privileged to hear the gospel. Let us be careful not to take it for granted - James 1:22-25, Matthew 7:21-23

## **Meditation on God's long-suffering, compassion and mercy**

- "Therefore, know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments ..." - Deuteronomy 7:9.
- "But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, long-suffering and abundant in mercy and truth." - Psalm 86:15.

- "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." - John 3:16.
- "And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things." - Mark 6:34.
- "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore, come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." - Hebrews 4:14-16.
- Therefore, the Lord longs to be gracious to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the Lord is a God of justice; How blessed are all those who long for Him. - Isaiah 30:18

## **Have we become dull of hearing about repentance?**

Therefore,

- o Understand His Long-suffering and repent continuously - Hebrews 4:7 Acts 17:30-31, 2 Chronicles 7:14
- o Walk humbly with God. Enoch is a picture of how to walk with God in the face of wickedness - Micah 6:8
- o Be long-suffering with others, as God is long-suffering with us - Luke 6:36, Ephesians 4:32
- o Give thanks in everything - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Colossians 3:17, Psalms 136
- o Submit to Christ as Lord - Ephesians 1:7

## **Where We are Going in 2022**

- Unpacking this good news from God that began in eternity past, unfolded beginning with Creation, was worked out through all of history, climaxed with the incarnation, life, death on a cross, the resurrection of the Son of God, and takes us into eternity future to the new heavens and new earth.
- Next week Bob - The Glorious Gospel of Grace and Works