

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 280 – Who Is This Through We Are Thine (Isaiah 63:1-19)

1. How does the Lord describe Himself as coming from Edom and Bozrah?

Righteous, saving, covered in the blood of those whom angered Him, but also as the lone redeemer: *“(1) Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. (2) Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? (3) I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. (4) For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. (5) And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. (6) And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth” (Isaiah 63:1-6).*

- The Lord said He was going to bring bloody vengeance upon Edom and the Edomite city of Bozrah (**Isaiah 34:1-15** and **Jeremiah 49:13-22**).
- The Lord speaks in righteousness (**Psalms 119:172** and **Isaiah 45:23**).
- He is mighty to save (**Zephaniah 3:17**; cf. **Isaiah 12:1-6**).
- God’s blood sprinkled garments as a winepress (**Lamentations 1:15**).
- When God had these judgments, bloody and violent on the earth, there was also a physical salvation for the faithful that tied to His wrath on man (**Jeremiah 51:6** and **Revelation 14:9-20**).
- None to help (**Isaiah 50:2** and **Isaiah 59:16**) so God did such alone (**Psalms 98:1-3**). God wants men to stand in the gap (**Ezekiel 22:29-31**).
- Getting God angry – NOT A GOOD IDEA (**Psalms 76:7**, **Nahum 1:3-6**, and **Acts 5:1-11**).

2. How is the loving-kindness of God toward His people described?

In contrast to the vengeful side of God on His enemies, He is the sympathetic Savior toward His people: *“(7) I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses. (8) For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour. (9) In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old” (Isaiah 63:7-9).*

- There is an inseparable goodness and severity of God (**Joshua 23:15-16**, **I Chronicles 28:9**, and **Romans 11:22**).
- “Lovingkindnesses” (**Numbers 14:18-19**, **Psalms 17:7**, **Psalms 36:10**, and **Micah 7:18**; cf. **I John 3:1**; **3:16**).

- Savior to a specific people (**Deuteronomy 33:29**).
 - That has changed (**Ephesians 2:11-17** and **I John 4:14**).
 - The principles are the same though (**Titus 2:11-14**).
- He sees (**Exodus 3:7**) and feels what His people suffer (**Judges 10:16** and **Hebrews 4:14-16**). This helps us understand how and why we can cast our cares upon Him (**I Peter 5:7**).
- Because of His love and pity He did not utterly destroy Israel many times (**Psalms 78:38**).

3. What did the Lord think back on when they rebelled against Him and vexed His Holy Spirit?

The days of Moses: *“(10) But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them. (11) Then he remembered the days of old, Moses, and his people, saying, Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of his flock? where is he that put his holy Spirit within him? (12) That led them by the right hand of Moses with his glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make himself an everlasting name? (13) That led them through the deep, as an horse in the wilderness, that they should not stumble? (14) As a beast goeth down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD caused him to rest: so didst thou lead thy people, to make thyself a glorious name” (Isaiah 63:10-14).*

- Rebellion is unfortunately a big part of Israel’s history (**Exodus 32:8**, **Deuteronomy 9:7**, **Numbers 20:24**, **Nehemiah 9:24-26**, **Ezekiel 2:3-7**, and **Daniel 9:5**).
- Man’s sins affect God (**Genesis 6:5-6**, **Psalms 78:40**, **Psalms 95:9-10**, **Ezekiel 6:9**, and **Luke 19:41-44**).
- God’s response – He became their enemy (**Joshua 22:18** and **Jeremiah 30:12-14**).
- God’s memory became their salvation (**Deuteronomy 4:29-40**).

4. What pleas did Isaiah and the remnant make toward God?

“(15) Look down from heaven, and behold from the habitation of thy holiness and of thy glory: where is thy zeal and thy strength, the sounding of thy bowels and of thy mercies toward me? are they restrained? (16) Doubtless thou art our father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not: thou, O LORD, art our father, our redeemer; thy name is from everlasting. (17) O LORD, why hast thou made us to err from thy ways, and hardened our heart from thy fear? Return for thy servants’ sake, the tribes of thine inheritance. (18) The people of thy holiness have possessed it but a little while: our adversaries have trodden down thy sanctuary. (19) We are thine: thou never barest rule over them; they were not called by thy name” (Isaiah 63:15-19).

- Israel called upon God in a manner to remind Him of their relationship (**Isaiah 54:5-17**, **Isaiah 64:8-9**, and **Matthew 7:7-11**).
- Why did God harden their hearts (**Isaiah 6:9-13** and **John 12:37-43**)?

- God did not MAKE THEM err (**James 1:13-16**), they choose such and then He did His part in hardening them (**II Thessalonians 2:10-12**).
- God's return was on them (**II Chronicles 7:14** and **Isaiah 59:1-3**).
- All they had to do to keep their land and their special relationship with God was to be faithful to Him and none of those things which happened to them would have happened to them (**Deuteronomy 7:1-26** and **Isaiah 1:19-20**).