

God's Grace & Mercy (Part 1)

4/24/22

Before we can talk about God's grace and mercy, we need to talk about a word that is closely associated with and will give us a better understanding.

The word longsuffering in the Bible is made up of two Greek words meaning "long" and "temper"; literally, "long-tempered." Self-restraint when one is stirred to anger.

Longsuffering is associated with grace and mercy. It is a motivation behind the two.

God is the source of longsuffering because it is part of His character. Cf. Exodus 34:6; Numbers 14:18–20; Psalm 86:15; Romans 2:4; 1 Peter 3:18-20

Exodus 34:6 *The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, Numbers 14:18-19* *The Lord is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, forgiving iniquity and transgression, but he will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, to the third and the fourth generation.' 19 Please pardon the iniquity of this people, according to the greatness of your steadfast love, just as you have forgiven this people, from Egypt until now."*

Psalm 86:15 *But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.*

Romans 2:4 *Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?*

2 Peter 3:1-18

V. 2 – remember

V. 9-10 – God is longsuffering not wishing any should perish

V. 14-15 – be diligent to be found by him without spot of blemish, and at peace.

V. 18 – grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

God's longsuffering can come to an end, because it is long not eternal.

Flood and Noah, Genesis 6 (see 1 Peter 3:20 and 2 Peter 3:5)

Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, Cf. Genesis 18-19

Sending of Israel into captivity, Cf. 2 Kings 17:1-23; 24:17-25:30

Remember the longsuffering of God.

Respond through the gospel of Jesus and grow in that knowledge.