

When you accept, by FAITH, that God is your loving Father, then does he need no further reason to love you other than because you want to be his! And accepting by faith means JUST saying in a quiet time: "Father, I want to have faith in you, but I am not sure how or what that means. Help me, please!" Then, spend a bit more in quiet time going about your day living in the BELIEF that you are behaving as his son/daughter!

God is never wrathful, vengeful, or angry.

***It is true that wisdom does often restrain his love, while justice conditions his rejected mercy. 2:6.7***

Definition

**wrathful:** full of or characterized by intense anger.

So, what is the origin of this idea?

It comes from the prophets in the Old Testament, which is the history of the relationship the Jews had with God. Today we understand that over our own lifetime, as little children, we are corrected by an adult. While we may be upset about the correction/punishment at the time, as an adult now, we no longer think of those times, as we grew to understand the intention behind the action designed to change wrong behavior. Add to this information, that Jesus, who WAS the revelation of the Father in his perfectly lived life, showed us in every way the LOVE of his and our Father now and forever.

God is LOVE

Since God IS love, and knows not the experience of being "mad" or looking for ways to "get even", it is inconceivable that he can be angry with you. "God is love"; therefore his only personal attitude towards the affairs of the universe is always a reaction of divine AFFECTION.

***"He makes his sun to rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." 2:5.1***

Do you think you fall into any of those categories?

Well, now you know you're covered by his love! We ALL are! God has NO favorites. We are each loved EQUALLY, for our own individuality, how ever imperfect we are, ALL the time!

***It is wrong to think of God as being coaxed into loving his children because of the sacrifices of his Sons or the intercession of his subordinate creatures, "for the Father himself loves you." 2:5.2***

Definitions:

**Coaxed:** gently and persistently persuaded (someone) to do something.

**Intercession:** the action of intervening on behalf of another.

**Subordinate:** lower in rank or position; to treat or regard as of lesser importance than something else.

See, it is so unlike a loving Divine Father to be influenced in any way to do something good for his children. He just desires to! And we certainly do not need anybody to speak to our Father for us, as the clergy of the religious institutions of the world would have us believe. You are not lesser than these religious men and women, but are equal to them, as you are their brother/sister. THIS is a universe and planetary fact! God loves the sinner and hates the sin...Sin is not a person. God loves the sinner because he is a personality reality.

***The love of God saves the sinner; the law of God destroys the sin...2:6.8***

I hope you are getting the STRONG impression and truth-fact that any sin you are worried about is DESTROYED!

In fact, look at this:

***"Be not downcast by your failure wholly to forget some of your regrettable experiences. The mistakes which you fail to forget in time will be forgotten in eternity". 156:5.8***

We each have regrettable experiences...

REALLY regrettable, and yet, look at what you and I are told. I believe it! So should you embrace that forgiveness and reject fear and superstition! We are delivered from these!

***"When man looks to God for forgiveness, and when he makes bold to enjoy such liberty, he is thereby delivered from fear." 131:6.2***

Definition

**liberty:** the state of being free within society from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority on one's way of life, behavior, or political views.

Let's look at this statement which Jesus identified as a true statement...

from the Jainism religion of 2000 years ago, and see how he makes equal the ideas of being FREE and the connection to and result of FORGIVENESS. SO wonderful, isn't it? And then! we are freed from FEAR. Wow. "Fear" from what, do you think? Maybe...hell? Will it relieve you to know that hell does not exist? But is a tool to control the believers in churches? There IS a way to "disappear" the iniquitous ones, those who have chosen to always and only serve themselves and their own selfish ends, shall just no longer exist.

**"Divine forgiveness is inevitable; it is inherent and inalienable in God's infinite understanding, in his perfect knowledge of all that concerns the mistaken judgment and erroneous choosing of the child." 174:1.3**

Definitions

**Inevitable:** certain to happen; unavoidable.

**Inherent:** existing in something as a permanent, essential, or characteristic attribute

**Inalienable:** unable to be taken away from or given away by the possessor.

Can you see that there is NOTHING you have done or can do which will keep you away from receiving God's forgiveness. His forgiveness, based upon your ability to forgive others is open and free to you, as a permanent part of who the Father is.

He knows exactly what challenges we face as imperfect humans.

**"Then Jesus made this final statement: "The Father in heaven does not willingly afflict the children of men. Man suffers, first, from the accidents of time and the imperfections of the evil of an immature physical existence. Next, he suffers the inexorable consequences of sin—the transgression of the laws of life and light. And finally, man reaps the harvest of his own iniquitous persistence in rebellion against the righteous rule of heaven on earth. But man's miseries are not a personal visitation of divine judgment. Man can, and will, do much to lessen his temporal sufferings. But once and for all be delivered from the superstition that God afflicts man at the behest of the evil one..." 148:6.11**

Definitions

**afflict:** to cause pain or suffering to; affect or trouble.

**inexorable:** impossible to stop or prevent

**iniquitous:** grossly unfair and morally wrong; as in the actions of Lucifer!

**superstition:** unjustified belief in supernatural causation leading to certain consequences of an action or event

**behest:** orders or command

Now at least you know that while your life may not be going as you hoped or planned...

that God has NOTHING against you, has NEVER plotted to ruin your life with unfortunate incidents or harm. This is all coming from the unjustified beliefs of olden times, when those, who did not know a loving Father-God, conjured up these ideas, again, to control their social living. Our very own unthinking actions and decisions may well cause results which are impossible for God to stop as he does not interfere with our free will choices.

Salvation is a CHOICE

Jesus said:

**"...I declare that salvation is first a matter of your personal choosing. Even if the door to the way of life is narrow, it is wide enough to admit all who sincerely seek to enter, for I am that door. And the Son will never refuse entrance to any child of the universe who, by faith, seeks to find the Father through the Son." 166:3.3**

Free will is a gift given to us by the Father, along with our personality and our own unique...

undiluted, indwelling fragment of him in our mind. It becomes easier to choose for righteousness, to do the will of the Father, each day that we spend time in worship – where we devote our soul and mind to slowly become more like him. As we look at the perfect demonstration of living as shown to us by Jesus, we can personally choose to act out those behaviors as we see we can in our own daily life.

Remember, he also said:

**"I am the way, the truth and the life. No man(woman) goes to the Father except through me....If you know me, you know the way to the Father." 180:3.7**

IMPORTANT:

Jesus was the visible manifestation of the invisible God. He was a perfect revelation and reflection of our loving Father, and a perfect specimen of humanity he showed back to God. He was GOD on earth; think of it like this: If God, the Father of Love, were to come down from his throne on high to live his life here on earth, he would be called JESUS.

**"Again do I declare: He who has seen me has seen the Father.... Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father in me?" 180:3.9**

**Questions to ponder:**

What is the first thing you need to do now to express your gratitude to God for his forgiveness?

How can you show your forgiveness to another and free that person up from fear?

Now would be a good time for each of you to **verbalize your commitments** to Jesus and His True Gospel OF "The kingdom of God that dwells within you." **Consecrate** yourselves to Him and each other.

Finish off by saying **The Lord's Prayer** together.

To embracing the love and forgiveness of our Paradise Father and His Son – Monica Kemp

Next week's lesson #10: **Meaning of the Cross**