

Countryside Bible Church - Sermon Application

“God’s Sermon on His Name (Pt. 3)” – Exodus 33:12—34:9

Main Idea: “God’s self-revelation in Ex. 34 destroys our inadequate, idolatrous views of Him and replaces them with a glimpse of the holiness, greatness, and the goodness of the true and living God.”

Outline:

- C. God Is Good (6b-7a).
 - 1. Good in His Attributes—Who He Is (6)
 - a. He is Compassionate (6).
 - b. He is Gracious (6).
 - c. He is Slow to Anger (6).
 - d. He is Abounding in Lovingkindness & Truth (6).
 - 2. Good in His Actions—What He Does (7a)
 - a. “[He] keeps lovingkindness for thousands” (7a).
 - b. “[He] forgives iniquity, transgression and sin” (7a).

Reflection/Application:

- I. In Exodus 33:18-19 how does God explain His glory? How was Satan’s temptation of Eve in the garden an attack on the goodness of God? How would deepening your understanding of God’s goodness help you when tempted? Further study: consider the relation of this truth to James 1:13-17 regarding temptation and God’s goodness.
- II. What does the word compassionate mean from verse 6? Explain what was described as the connection of this word to the idea of the womb/motherhood and to the one who is strong and the one who is weak. What does God mean by describing Himself as gracious? How might God’s gracious and compassionate response to our sin (John 3:16; Titus 2:11) help us to respond in a godly way that is slow to anger toward those who sin against us? Is there a specific person you can think of that you could apply these truths? Does God’s patience toward sin mean that He is ok with sin? Why or why not?
- III. What does the *hesed* or lovingkindness of God mean (Psalm 36:5)? What is the relation of the word to love and loyalty? What encouraged you knowing that God’s *hesed* leads Him to preserve (Ps 40:11), comfort (Ps 119:76), forgive (Ps 51:1), grant compassion (Is 54:8), hear (Ps 119:149), and provide hope (Ps 130:7) to His people? What does it mean in verse 6 that God is a God of truth? How does this reality relate to His promises?
- IV. Who are the two groups mentioned in verse 7? What actions does God promise toward each? Does the group that God forgives and gives grace have something unique or special that allows them to receive God’s forgiveness? How does God’s gracious character and actions toward sin make clear how He would respond to sinners who turn to Him? How might God’s gracious character and actions toward our sin motivate a Christian’s worship and desire to reflect Him? Is there a person in your past or present whom you have not forgiven at all or as much as needed (Matt 18:21-22)? Several attitudes give us indication that forgiveness may be needed: bitterness, judgmental/critical, overly sensitive to the faults or failings of certain people, etc.

