

DO WE ALWAYS UNDERSTAND GOD?

By Keith Greer

Many times in the Scriptures we see man could not fully understand and comprehend the "ways" of God.

"O LORD, how long shall I cry, And You will not hear? Even cry out to You, 'Violence!' And You will not save." {Habakkuk 1:2}

"You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. Why do You look on those who deal treacherously, And hold Your tongue when the wicked devours A person more righteous than he?" {Habakkuk 1:13}

God's prophet Habakkuk was having some serious doubts about what God was going to do. How could He use an ungodly people like the Chaldeans, who were much more wicked than Judah, to destroy His people? To the prophet, at least from his viewpoint, this seemed a paradox. Could God be making a mistake? Heaven forbid!

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts." {Isaiah 55:8,9}

God knows what He is doing. Never doubt it for one minute. Man often tries to bring God down to his level. God's "ways and thoughts" are more nobler, purer, wiser, and well thought out than any of man's!

We must understand that God cannot overlook sin! Whenever man becomes guilty of transgression, God must act.

"For we have been consumed by Your anger, And by Your wrath we are terrified. You have set our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your countenance." {Psalm 90:7,8}

"But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the LORD; and be sure your sin will find you out." {Numbers 32:23}

"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?" {Romans 6:1,2}

God is just in all of His dealings with us. Because of His justice, He cannot overlook sin. This being the truth, it made necessary the death of His only begotten Son. Blood of bulls and goats could not pay the debt. Man could not pay for his own sins. God had a sure payment.

"Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness; by whose stripes you were healed." {1 Peter 2:24}

From the beginning of time, man has seemed to doubt that God knows what He is doing. Let me offer some examples:

Eve thought the serpent had a better way. Cain believed his sacrifice was just as good as an animal sacrifice. Abraham thought lying about Sarah being his wife was a safer way. Moses thought striking the rock was just as good as speaking to it. Naaman thought the rivers of Damascus were better than Jordan River. The disciples believed that Jesus did not need to die. Peter didn't see the need in Jesus washing the disciples' feet. Get the picture?

Today it's no different. The church is not adequate in doing its work; we need other institutions. Worship is dull and boring; we need instrumental music to spice it up. More recreational and social programs will gain more members. Do we need to go on?

Here is my solution-- Let God be God. Trust Him. God knows what He is doing! ***