

## God and violence !

How hard is it, to understand that God is love, especially in the old testament ?

### Introduction

When I started reading the Bible I really could not understand why so many people were killed with Gods approval. How should I connect this opposite part of love with God ?

I read a lot , especially the letters from Paul, every day.

Once in a while I read the Bible again from Genesis till Revelation because every time I discover that the Holy Spirit showed me so many new things in time that I am able to understand everything better than before.. The Bible is a continuing revelation process to me and will never stop this process.

And this is simply due to the fact that Gods intelligence is far beyond we ever could imagine. The human spirit is limited to humanity. The Holy Spirit is unlimited.

### Israel in slavery

Israel went into slavery in Egypt because the new Pharaoh did not remember what God achieved through Joseph, the son of Jacob. Here we see that we are way ahead concerning God telling Israel to remember His Covenant and all He did to get Israel out of slavery later on. God told the people again and again to tell to each next generation, the covenant, the law from Mose (also later on) and all He had done to get Israel into the land God promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Israel found out themselves in Egypt, what would happen if God (through Joseph) would be forgotten. A slavery of more than 400 years due to the new Pharaoh.

### Gods promises (good and bad)

God can not lie, so promises as well as His wrath will always be executed.

The way God works is simple: He never does something we do not know about !

God promised Israel glory, a fruitfull land, no diseases, being a happy nation, perfect weather, a model nation, Gods nation, set as an example for all the people all over the world.

Of course , being the creator of the whole universe, He determines His conditions.

These conditions being the 10 commandments. Remember that keeping the first commandment 100% we fulfill the other 9 very easily. But to Love God is something which comes from your heart.

And if it comes from your heart it is no obligation at all ! We accept everything if it is Gods will !

### Moses Law

The 10 commandments do not contain a penalty. These 10 commandments are Gods perfection into a human being. One of the 10 is that we shall not steal. But what if we do steal ? We shall not kill another. What if we do ?

If we look into the history of mankind Kain killed his brother. In Genesis 4:7 God tells Kain that he himself can decide to do well and that he can rule about sin and its desires. In Genesis 4:12 God tells Him the consequences. In the next verse God shows us His mercy, being much bigger than the crime (sin). In Genesis 26:5 God tells us about Abrahams obedience to God. God speaks about Gods orders and laws.

The Bible does not tell us that the 10 commandments already existed at that time. But I can imagine that the relationship between God and Abraham can be compared to the 10 commandments just by telling Abraham what to do.

When God guided israel out of Egypt to the promised land He did that personally. Throughout the day into the clouds and during the evening in a fire. All the Israelites witnessed the wonders God did in Egypt. He guided them through Mose into a dry sea. Can you imagine that ?

God wanted a perfect nation and to be so He guided them personally for 40 years. This all resulted in complaints and disobedianges. Israel sinned constantly.

So God had to show Israel all their sins and the penalties for their sins. Actually God showed them how big the distance was between Israel and God ! So the 10 commandments were expanded by the law given by God through Mose to Israel.

## **Punishment**

If we commit a crime, we know that we get a punishment. We can go to prison, get a fine or even can end on death row. If we do not commit a crime, we will not go to prison, get a fine or end on death row. That is our decision.

God gave the rewards and the conditions very clearly to Israel. Also the consequences of disobedianges. Through Mose into a Book. The law of Israel.

God is the creator of the Universe so He is the one who makes all the conditions. And His conditions is founded on Love and Love only.

If you are a father or a mother, you know that we have rules towards our children. Sometimes it is necessary to punish. Our children know the consequences, at least if we execute the penalty. We hope they learn from it and that they obey better next time. But its foundation is Love. Do we punish because we like to punish our children ? The punishment will hurt us inside because we love our children and we only want to see our children be happy.

It is not different with God. We can look at it from the same perspectives. There is one big difference: we live today and God knows the future.

People who rejected God and being aware of the reason of rejection, faced Gods wrath, in the Old Testament.

## **No male Israelite of 20 years and older would see the promised land**

Numeri 14:22 tells us that all male Israelites who had seen Gods Glory and signs in Egypt and in the desert, deliberately requested God in a bad way ten times in a row. Kaleb was the only exception. They were ALL in disobedience. They ALL knew Gods conditions and they ALL knew the consequences. So to receive the punishments from God was their own choice. All would die in the desert and the children will be brought into the promised land Numeri 14:31.

So the question is: **was God unjustly ?**

- they all witnessed miracles
- they all got food, water provided by God
- they all were personally guided by God through Mose
- they all knew the conditions
- they all knew that God would execute the punishments: look at Egypt, they saw the plagues
- 10 times they deliberately act in disobedience towards God

## **Seven nations killed ?**

So we now come at a very violent part. People have so many questions about this.

Seven nations lived in the land given by God to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Genesis 10 tells us a lot about the origin of the nations.

Genesis 22:13-16 tells us that God told Abraham about slavery in Egypt for 400 years and in verse 16 God tells us why 400 years: because the injustice of the Amorites (one of the 7 nations) was not completed yet, so the 4th generation would be going to the promised land.

In verse 18 we see Gods agreement with Abraham concerning the promised land and nations living there.

In Genesis 48:21-22 Joseph tells us about a part of the promised of the Amorites for his two sons. Exodus 3:8,17/13:5 again Gods promise and the nations living there.

God named the 7 nations ENEMIES in Exodus 23:22. In the next verse 23 God tells us that His Angel will destroy the nations. And in verse 24 God gives us the reason why ! He tells us again in Exodus 33:2/34:11. Deuteronomy 7 / 20:17-18 gives us information about the distance between God and those nations. These nations were real evil !

## **Did God not ask the 7 nations just to leave the country ?**

The Amorites:

Numeri 21:21-22 a peaceful question !

Numeri 21:23 the answer from the King of the Amorites: “no, we battle” !

Were they all killed , the Amorites ?

Numeri 21:32: no !

Numeri 32:39 no !

Deuteronomy 20:17: no !

Og, King of Basan and his people were the next one being killed. Numeri 21:33-35.

### **The King of Jericho**

This king decided to be an enemy of Israel as well. Joshua 2:3.

### **Have they heard about God and Israel, all He did in Egypt, the two kings Sihon and Og ?**

In Joshua 2:9-11 Rachab tells us all people knew about that ! So if they knew Gods power they still decided to battle against God trusting their own false Gods.

In verse 13 Rachab begs for mercy and not to be killed.

In verse 19 and chapter 6:17,25 all people being in the house of Rachab would **not be killed**.

### **Evidence for the power of God for all the children of Israel and all people on earth**

The water of the Jordan river would also be removed temporary by God for the Israelites.

Joshua 4:5-7/20-23 shows us the sign to be made concerning Gods power for Israel.

Verse 24 tells us that it would be a sign for all the people on earth.

### **What about children/babies ?**

I think this is the most difficult part to understand.

At some parts in the Bible we read that ALL people had been killed in some cities. Look what happened to Sodom and Gomorra (Genesis 13:10 18:20 18:23-36 and Genesis chapter 19 completely).

We also know that all firstborn were killed in Egypt.

We can not find an explanation why children (babies) were killed as well.

What we do know is following:

- God is love
- God always shows the consequences of obedience as well as disobedience **on advance**
- So God **gives a choice**
- God created all, so what He creates, He is the one to rule above creation
- God knows the future seeing the fact that ALL prophecies are true and lots of them have been fulfilled yet.

Now the question:

**can children/babies make that choice ?**

Did God not show us that **all Israelian men of 20 years and older** would die in the desert and never would see the promised land ? Why not 0-19 years as well ?

God had and still has a great target: Israel being the modelnation of the world, so He personally guided them to be so. God made that choice due to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob because of **the Faith** of them !

Remember that only 8 people were saved in the time of Noah, so much evil at that time. The world was in complete darkness towards God.

The same happens with the 7 nations who received so many signs, possibilities to leave the land, God promised to Israel, **freely**! God is the creator so He can determine to give that land to anyone He wants.

So with this all being said, **I believe that God never allows people to kill other people who do or did not have the possibility to know Gods Love and Creation.**

**Seeing the fact that God knows the future, I believe that God SAVED AND SAVES all these people to get an eternal better life in the future !**

If people believe in a Big Bang Theory or Evolution they ALL know the other side as well: God as Creator. In other words: they ALL reject God and they ALL are able to make that choice. This is an example of people NOT belonging to the group of children/babies and all people not having the possibility to make that choice.

May our Father guide me through the Holy Spirit and His beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord to speak the truth.

**[www.theintimate.net](http://www.theintimate.net)**