

The Heart of God, Isaiah Ch.63

Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is He who put His holy Spirit in the midst of them . . . Where are Your zeal and Your mighty deeds? The stirring of your heart and your compassion are restrained toward me. Isaiah 63:11, 15

What is the nature of God's heart?

- Does it only wish good? _____
- Does it ever wish harm? _____
- Does God have emotions? _____

The Text

- The solitary work of God
 - Who comes from the east, with glory and strength, victorious? v.1-2

 - I (God) alone have avenged my wrath, for vengeance was in my heart, and no one could rise to help me? v.3-6

(Note hear that "redemption" appears in context with "vengeance" and "wrath.")

- The kindness and mercy of God
 - "I shall" make mention of the compassionate features of God, (In contrast to the first 6 verses), v.7

 - The messianic nature of God, v.8-9

 - Rebellion of man, v.10.

 - The memory of God's ancient grace and mercy, v.11-14

- Be merciful again, Lord.
 - Please consider us again, you are our ancient redeemer, v.15-16.

 - Why did you make us this way (parenthetic), v.17a

 - Please return to us, we have been overrun by our enemies, v.18-19. _____

The contrast of God's range of feeling.

- Here are some Biblical "facts:"
 - God gets angry, Exodus 32:9-10:

 - He is slow to execute judgment, Exodus 32:33-34:

 - He experiences great joy, Proverbs 12:22, Psalms 16:11, 48:1-3:

- Like it or not:
 - The extent of God's emotion is greater than ours, and when he is angry he is really angry.

 - Not everything will be rosy for everybody. Judgment will include vengeance.

 - Forgiveness in the judgment will come to those who ask for it, regardless of what we may think or desire for those individuals.

- God alone is the judge and the redeemer, Is.63:5.

- And we either please or displease him by our daily actions, and sometimes by our moment by moment actions. _____
- Yet, God does not judge as we do, and he is not capricious in his reaction to us. He has also, of his own will, provided an escape from judgment.
 - Hebrews 10:23-27, _____

And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
Matthew 19:28