

Elevating our View of God

Not all portions of Scripture carry equal weight. In the earlier portions of Scripture we witness the struggles of a nation that had a very negative view of God. To some, God was irrelevant, and it was OK to ignore God's commands and warnings. To others, God was excessively harsh and judgmental. As a result, that nation endured every conceivable negative experience possible. Those negative experiences served, over time, to elevate their view of God, culminating in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. God's promise to that nation was that through them all nations of the earth would be blessed.

The most important theological lessons can only be forged in the crucible of negative human experience. In other words: no pain, no gain.

Fulfilling our purpose in life apparently is achievable despite our theological ignorance. Our "not knowing" is part of the plan, as it was in the case of the Nation of Israel. The experiences of fear, pain and suffering are important and necessary to our development as individuals and as a species. We need to experience the full negative impact of those experiences in order to develop positive qualities of sacrificial love, forgiveness, kindness, mercy, endurance, patience, and yes, happiness and joy.

Is it possible to "rise above" the negative impacts of these experiences by adjusting our thinking and adopting a more correct view of God? Yes, but only when we are ready, only when the time is right.

Are you ready for a change?

If you are going through rough times and find yourself assailed by disappointments, doubts and uncertainty, perhaps you would be helped by elevating your view of God. If God is truly more loving, kind and merciful than any human being could possibly be, then you can be sure that God wants only what is best for you. God not only desires the best for you, He also is perfectly capable and willing to accomplish His purposes in your life. Just around the corner, where you cannot presently see, await the joys of Heaven. In this lifetime we can at least partially experience those joys if we would elevate our view of God, enter into relationship with Him, and give thanks ahead of time for those blessings which are sure to come, sooner or later.