

THE SEVERITY & GOODNESS OF GOD

God Is Severe & Good

- I. **God is both severe and good (NT)** - **Rm11:20** - Because of UNBELIEF (incredulous) they were broken off and you stand by faith. Be not highminded but fear:²¹For if God spared not the natural branches take heed lest he also spare not you.²²Behold (see/aware) therefore the GOODNESS (kind/gentle) and SEVERITY (harsh/strict) of God: ON THEM WHICH FELL severity but toward you goodness if you continue in his goodness: otherwise you also will be cut off - **GW** - Look at how kind and how severe God can be - **MS** - Make sure you stay alert to these qualities of gentle kindness and ruthless severity that exist side by side in God - ruthless with the deadwood, gentle with the grafted shoot. But DON'T PRESUME ON THIS GENTLENESS. The moment you become deadwood you're out of there
- A. We are to be aware of BOTH His goodness and His severity - Being only aware of His goodness causes you to live loosely believing there will be consequence; Being only aware of His severity causes you to not trust and follow - **Jd1:4** - Turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness - **Ga5:13** - **Dt1:26-27** - Rebelled against the commandment of the Lord...because the Lord hated us he has brought us forth out...of Egypt...to destroy us
- B. Only the unrepentant see His severity - God in his mercy give us time to repent, but it's not unlimited - **Ps86:5** - For you Lord art good and ready to forgive and plenteous in mercy to all them that call upon them - **Pr29:1** - He, that being often reprov'd hardens his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed and that without remedy - **Rv2:21** - I gave her space to repent of her fornication and she repented not
- II. **God renders to every man according to his deeds** - That can be good or severe - **Rm2:2** - We are sure that THE JUDGMENT OF GOD IS ACCORDING TO TRUTH against them which commit such things.³And thinkest thou this O man, that judges them which do such things and DOES THE SAME, THAT YOU SHALT ESCAPE THE JUDGMENT OF GOD?^{4MS}Did you think that because he's such a nice God, he'd let you off the hook...God is kind, but he's not soft. In kindness he takes us firmly by the hand and leads us into a radical life-change.⁵But after thy HARDNESS (stubborn) and IMPENITENT (unrepentant) heart treasur'd up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT OF GOD;⁶WHO WILL RENDER TO EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS:⁷To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory...honor...immortality, eternal life: ⁸But unto them that are contentious and do not obey the truth but obey unrighteousness...indignation and wrath,⁹Tribulation and anguish UPON EVERY SOUL of man that does evil...¹⁰But glory, honor and peace TO EVERY MAN that works good...¹¹For THERE IS NO RESPECT OF PERSONS WITH GOD - **Ez16:59** - I will even deal with you as you have done - **1Sam2:30**
- A. His judgment is according to truth - If He's being severe it's right - **2**
- B. God is fair - If you do what they do, you'll be judged to - **3,11**
- C. They thought they would escape His severity because of His goodness - They treasured up wrath unto themselves, by not repenting - **4,5**
- D. Righteous judgment is rendering to every man according to His deeds - **6**