

THE SEVERITY & GOODNESS OF GOD

Ready To Forgive

- I. **God is ready to forgive everybody (Not condemn/judge) -Ne9:17**-Refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that you didst among them; but HARDENED THEIR NECKS and IN THEIR REBELLION appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but you art a God READY TO PARDON, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness and forsook them not-**Ps86:5**-For you Lord art good and READY TO FORGIVE and plenteous in mercy TO ALL THEM THAT CALL UPON THEE
- II. **God ready to forgive but He's waiting for people to repent because repentance is the only way to get mercy-Pr28:13**-He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy-**Is55:7**-Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon-**2Ch30:9**-The Lord your God is gracious and merciful and will not turn his face from you if you return to him
- III. **Repentance (missing it and being able to repent and not incur the penalty) is a gift-2Tm2:25**-Instructing those that oppose themselves if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;²⁶And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil-**Ps103:8**-The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy.¹⁰He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.¹¹For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.
- IV. **God delights in mercy NOT judgment-Mic7:18**-Who is a God like unto you, that pardons iniquity and passes by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retains not his anger forever because HE DELIGHTS IN MERCY
- A. God's perfect will is not judgment-He wants repentance and mercy-**2Pt3:9**-...Longsuffering to us-ward not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.
- V. **God gives people time to repent and doesn't judge quickly-Rv2:21**-I gave her space to repent of her fornication and she repented not-**Ne9:17**
- A. The time God gives you to repent is not unlimited-Lk13:6-A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came and sought fruit thereon and found none.⁷Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?⁸...Lord, let it alone THIS YEAR also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it:⁹And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then AFTER THAT thou shalt cut it down.
- VI. **By not repenting you can see the severity of God and miss out on His goodness-Pr29:1**-He, that being often reprov'd hardens his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed and that without remedy.