

“Does God Command Intolerance?”
Deuteronomy 12: 29 - 32
August 24, 2014

Loving God Covenantally Requires The Circumcision Of Your Heart And Not Exclusively Your Flesh, (vs. 16)

Message Emphasis: Many of us have substituted “tolerance” for grace. That is, we have allowed those things that are displeasing to God to remain in our midst. We know the idols are there but we just put up with them; we have NOT dealt radically with the sin in the camp. When we see the love God has given to us, we will hold all other relationships subservient to our covenant relationship with God and when we are tempted to pursue other idols, we must cut them off regardless of who may entice us.

“For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person’s enemies will be those of his own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.” (Matthew 10:35–38, ESV)

To Enjoy God’s Covenant Requires A Change In Genuine Love; Not Just Tolerance, (vs. 6 - 11)

Grace... Gifting... Growth... Guarantee

- No other relationship should COMPETE with God *We must be careful not to let emotion run away with us*
If your brother, the son of your mother, or your son or your daughter or the wife you embrace or your friend who is as your own soul *“From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh...” (2 Corinthians 5:16)*

- No other interest should COMPEL you to leave God *We must be careful not to let our eye be allured by worldly things*
entices (Impf) you secretly, saying (Inf), ‘Let us go (Impf) and serve (Impf) other gods,’ which neither you nor your fathers have known (Perf), *“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. “ ‘You shall have no other gods before me.” (Deuteronomy 5:6–7, ESV)*

- No other novelty should be COMPARED with God *We must be careful not to let “Newness” mean better*
some of the gods of the peoples who are around you, whether near you or far off from you, from the one end of the earth to the other, *“ ‘You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.” (Deuteronomy 5:8–10, ESV)*

- No other voice should be CONSIDERED in the place of God *We must be careful what voices we listen to*
you shall not yield (Impf) to him or
 - *Alternate voices claim to be reasonable – listen (Impf) to him,*
 - *Alternate voices appeal to your sense of fairness - nor shall your eye pity (Impf) him,*
 - *Alternate voices play upon the illusion of mercy - nor shall you spare (Impf) him,*
 - *Alternate voices misrepresent dignity – nor shall you conceal (Impf) him.*
 - *Alternate voices lead to tolerance – But you shall kill him (Inf)*

Not what my hands have done Can save my guilty soul; Not what my toiling flesh has borne Can make my spirit whole. Not what I feel or do Can give me peace with God; Not all my prayers and sighs and tears Can bear my awful load.

How Do I Make Sure I Am Taking Personal Responsibility In Dealing With Tolerance?, (vs. 9b - 10)

1. Removing our idols is our responsibility - Your hand shall be (Impf) first against him to put (Inf) him to death,
2. Removing our idols requires corporate accountability - and afterward the hand of all the people. You shall stone (Perf) him to death (Perf) with stones,
3. Removing our idols is based on our love for God - because he sought (Perf) to draw (Inf) you away from the LORD your God, who brought (Part) you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
4. Removing our idols preserves the unity of God’s people - And all Israel shall hear (Impf) and fear (Impf) and never again (Impf) do (Inf) any such wickedness as this among you.

*****How Do I Enter Into A Covenant Relationship With God? ****

Message Directive: Look to Christ for the salvation of your soul ONLY in Christ will you find the proper understanding of what it means to be tolerant.

15. To Enjoy God's Covenant Necessitates Acceptance Of God's Standard Of Purity, (vs. 12 - 18)
16. To Enjoy God's Covenant Ensures God's Eternal Possession Of His People, (vs. 14: 1 - 2)