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YouTube Prayer Link

God's judgment and justice

God's judgment is seen in Christianity as God's assessment and judgment of human behavior. According to biblical teaching, everyone will be judged by God at some point in their lives. This judgment is fair and just, based on everyone's actions and beliefs. God is described as an omniscient, all-powerful, and righteous God who has the power to judge people's lives and determine their ends.

In Christianity, there are two main aspects to God's judgment. First, there is the judgment of the afterlife, that is, the fate of the soul after the death of the individual. According to the Bible, the human soul will face an eternal fate, either sharing eternal life with God or being isolated from God in eternal punishment. This afterlife judgment is part of the Christian faith that they believe that through faith in Jesus Christ they can be lifted and present with God in the afterlife.

Second, there is the judgment of this life, where people's actions and choices are judged by God. This is not just in the afterlife, but also in this life. Christianity teaches people to live a righteous and godly life, abide by moral principles, and avoid sin. While people cannot become completely holy themselves, they believe that through their closeness to God, they can receive forgiveness and change to walk on the path of righteousness.

Closely related to God's judgment is the concept of justice. In Christianity, righteousness is one of God's virtues and the standard by which He judges. God is considered to be absolutely just, and His judgment is not influenced by human prejudice or corruption. Christians are taught to imitate God's righteousness and reflect God's character through love, generosity, and concern for social justice. Justice also includes caring for the vulnerable, helping the poor and upholding human rights.

God's judgment and justice have had a profound impact in the Christian faith. They remind Christians to take responsibility for their actions and encourage them to care for the justice and morality of society. These two concepts play a key role in Christians' moral and ethical decision-

making, helping them to recognize how their actions affect others and how they are in line with God's will.

In Christianity, God's judgment and justice are central concepts that remind believers to take responsibility for their actions and beliefs and encourage them to pursue justice, love, and fairness that reflect God's character. These concepts provide a solid moral foundation in the faith life of Christians, shaping their behavior and values.

The Bible contains much about God's justice and judgment. Here are some passages from the Bible that emphasize these concepts:

Judgment and Justice in the Old Testament:

Psalms 89:14: "Righteousness and fairness are the foundation of your throne, and love and honesty walk before you. "

Isaiah 30:18: "The Lord will wait for grace to you, and will rise up to have mercy on you. For Jehovah is a just God. Blessed are those who wait for him. "

Amos 5:24: "May justice come like a great water, and righteousness flow away like a river." "

Judgment and Justice in the New Testament:

Matthew 25:31-46: This verse on the Last Judgment describes that Jesus will judge all nations, judging their end according to their treatment of poverty, hunger, disease, and captivity.

Romans 2:5-6: "But you are willful, unaware of God's kindness, forgiveness, and perseverance, and so unrepentant that you have accumulated wrath for yourself, so that when the day comes, when God's wrath and righteous judgment comes, you will pay according to the deeds of each man." "

Hebrews 9:27: "It is ordained that every man dies once, and after death there is judgment. "

These verses emphasize God's justice and judgment in different ways, and they have an important place in Christian doctrine, reminding people to take responsibility for their actions, believe in God's justice, and seek His grace and forgiveness. These verses also emphasize the importance of caring for social justice and love, which are key elements in Christian ethics.

The Christian Bible as a whole contains content about God's justice and judgment, but no particular book is devoted entirely to these topics. Instead, these concepts are covered throughout the Bible and are scattered across different books and verses. Here are some of the core ideas about God's justice and judgment that recur in various parts of the Bible:

Old Testament Judgment and Righteousness: Many of the Old Testament books emphasize God's justice and judgment, especially the historical experience of the Israelites and other peoples.

Exodus: describes how God judged Pharaoh of Egypt to save Israel from slavery.

Exodus to Deuteronomy: Contains the Law of Commandments, which sets out God's standards of justice and the moral code that people should follow.

Isaiah: It prophesied God's righteousness and judgment and the hope of future salvation.

Amos: Social injustice and God's judgment are highlighted.

Judgment and Justice in the New Testament: The New Testament emphasizes the coming of Jesus Christ, who is considered the ruler of judgment.

Matthew 25:31-46: describes Jesus' judgment on all nations, focusing on care for the disadvantaged in society.

John 5:22: Jesus said He would judge the world in the future.

Romans: emphasizes the relationship between faith and righteousness and mentions God's righteousness and judgment.

While no single biblical book focuses exclusively on God's justice and judgment, these themes run throughout Scripture and are an important part of the Christian faith. They remind Christians to take responsibility for their actions and beliefs and to seek God's forgiveness and guidance in keeping with His will.

Christian doctrine emphasizes the idea that God also does justice in this life. This means that God will not only do justice in judgment in the afterlife, but will also be fair and righteous to mankind in this life. Here are some Bible verses and related ideas that support this idea:

God's Fairness and Righteousness: God's fairness and righteousness are emphasized many times in the Bible. This means that God acts according to the principle of justice and treats everyone fairly.

Proverbs 21:15: "Righteousness pleases kings, and righteousness in good words makes kings strong." "

Psalms 11:7: "For the righteous Lord loves righteousness, and he faces the righteous. "

God's Care and Intervention: Christians believe that God is not only righteous, but also cares about human life in this life and will intervene in the events of the world to ensure that justice is manifested.

Matthew 6:33: "Therefore ask first of his kingdom and his righteousness, and these things will be given to you. "

Luke 4:18-19: Jesus quotes Isaiah to emphasize His purpose in coming into the world, which includes preaching righteousness.

Social Justice: Christian doctrine encourages Christians to care about social justice issues, to speak up for the underprivileged, and to pursue fairness and equality.

James 1:27: "Before God our Father, the clean, untainted piety is to care for orphans and widows in distress and to keep oneself from polluting the world. "

Amos 5:24: "May justice come like a great water, and righteousness flow away like a river." "

These verses and doctrines emphasize the relationship between social justice and God's righteousness in the Christian faith. Christians are encouraged to practice righteousness in this life, care about social justice issues, and do their best to reflect God's character to help build a fairer and more just society. This shows that God's righteousness is manifested not only in judgment, but also in this life through the work and participation of believers.

We pray together

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank and praise your righteous and divine presence. Today, we stand humbly before you and ask for your blessings and guidance.

Heavenly Father, you are a righteous God and your judgment is fair and perfect. We acknowledge our weaknesses and sometimes faults before you. We ask you to give us wisdom and fortitude so that we can walk in your path with reverence for your will.

Please keep us from temptation and sin. Help us to uphold your moral code and become people of integrity, compassion and love.

We also pray for your blessings to help us better understand and feel your presence. May your Holy Spirit fill us and guide us to make the right choices in life to glorify Your name.

Heavenly Father, please keep us safe from evil and temptation. May the light of your righteousness shine on our lives and let us be the light and salt to this world, spreading your truth and love.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Numbers chapter 16

Nu. 16:1 Korah son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and

certain Reubenites — Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab, and

On son of Peleth — became insolent [Or Peleth — took men]

Nu. 16:2 and rose up against Moses. With them were 250 Israelite

men, well-known community leaders who had been appointed

members of the council.

Nu. 16:3 They came as a group to oppose Moses and Aaron and said

to them, “You have gone too far! The whole community is

holy, every one of them, and the LORD is with them. Why

then do you set yourselves above the LORD’s assembly?”

Nu. 16:4 When Moses heard this, he fell face down.

Nu. 16:5 Then he said to Korah and all his followers: “In the morning the LORD will show who belongs to him and who is holy, and he will make that person come near him. The man he chooses he will cause to come near him.

Nu. 16:6 You, Korah, and all your followers are to do this: Take censers

Nu. 16:7 and tomorrow put fire and incense in them before the LORD.

The man the LORD chooses will be the one who is holy. You Levites have gone too far!”

Nu. 16:8 Moses also said to Korah, “Now listen, you Levites!

Nu. 16:9 Isn’t it enough for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the rest of the Israelite community and brought you near himself to do the work at the LORD’s tabernacle and to stand before the community and minister to them?

Nu. 16:10 He has brought you and all your fellow Levites near himself, but now you are trying to get the priesthood too.

Nu. 16:11 It is against the LORD that you and all your followers have banded together. Who is Aaron that you should grumble against him?”

Nu. 16:12 Then Moses summoned Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab. But they said, “We will not come!

Nu. 16:13 Isn’t it enough that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey to kill us in the desert? And now you also want to lord it over us?

Nu. 16:14 Moreover, you haven’t brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey or given us an inheritance of fields and vineyards. Will you gouge out the eyes of [Or you make

slaves of; or you deceive] these men? No, we will not come!”

Nu. 16:15 Then Moses became very angry and said to the LORD, “Do not accept their offering. I have not taken so much as a donkey from them, nor have I wronged any of them.”

Nu. 16:16 Moses said to Korah, “You and all your followers are to appear before the LORD tomorrow — you and they and Aaron.

Nu. 16:17 Each man is to take his censer and put incense in it — 250 censers in all — and present it before the LORD. You and Aaron are to present your censers also.”

Nu. 16:18 So each man took his censer, put fire and incense in it, and stood with Moses and Aaron at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.

Nu. 16:19 When Korah had gathered all his followers in opposition to them at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, the glory of the LORD appeared to the entire assembly.

Nu. 16:20 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron,

Nu. 16:21 “Separate yourselves from this assembly so that I can put an end to them at once.”

Nu. 16:22 But Moses and Aaron fell face down and cried out, “O God, God of the spirits of all mankind, will you be angry with the entire assembly when only one man sins?”

Nu. 16:23 Then the LORD said to Moses,

Nu. 16:24 “Say to the assembly, ‘Move away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.’”

Nu. 16:25 Moses got up and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him.

Nu. 16:26 He warned the assembly, “Move back from the tents of these

wicked men! Do not touch anything belonging to them, or you will be swept away because of all their sins.”

Nu. 16:27 So they moved away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. Dathan and Abiram had come out and were standing with their wives, children and little ones at the entrances to their tents.

Nu. 16:28 Then Moses said, “This is how you will know that the LORD has sent me to do all these things and that it was not my idea:

Nu. 16:29 If these men die a natural death and experience only what usually happens to men, then the LORD has not sent me.

Nu. 16:30 But if the LORD brings about something totally new, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them, with everything that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the grave, [Hebrew Sheol; also in verse 33] then you will know that these men have treated the LORD with contempt.”

Nu. 16:31 As soon as he finished saying all this, the ground under them split apart

Nu. 16:32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them, with their households and all Korah’s men and all their possessions.

Nu. 16:33 They went down alive into the grave, with everything they owned; the earth closed over them, and they perished and were gone from the community.

Nu. 16:34 At their cries, all the Israelites around them fled, shouting, “The earth is going to swallow us too!”

Nu. 16:35 And fire came out from the LORD and consumed the 250 men who were offering the incense.

Nu. 16:36 The LORD said to Moses,

Nu. 16:37 “Tell Eleazar son of Aaron, the priest, to take the censers out of the smouldering remains and scatter the coals some distance away, for the censers are holy —

Nu. 16:38 the censers of the men who sinned at the cost of their lives. Hammer the censers into sheets to overlay the altar, for they were presented before the LORD and have become holy. Let them be a sign to the Israelites.”

Nu. 16:39 So Eleazar the priest collected the bronze censers brought by those who had been burned up, and he had them hammered out to overlay the altar,

Nu. 16:40 as the LORD directed him through Moses. This was to remind the Israelites that no-one except a descendant of Aaron should come to burn incense before the LORD, or he would become like Korah and his followers.

Nu. 16:41 The next day the whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. “You have killed the LORD’s people,” they said.

Nu. 16:42 But when the assembly gathered in opposition to Moses and Aaron and turned towards the Tent of Meeting, suddenly the cloud covered it and the glory of the LORD appeared.

Nu. 16:43 Then Moses and Aaron went to the front of the Tent of Meeting,

Nu. 16:44 and the LORD said to Moses,

Nu. 16:45 “Get away from this assembly so that I can put an end to them at once.” And they fell face down.

Nu. 16:46 Then Moses said to Aaron, “Take your censer and put incense in it, along with fire from the altar, and hurry to the assembly to make atonement for them. Wrath has come out

from the LORD; the plague has started.”

Nu. 16:47 So Aaron did as Moses said, and ran into the midst of the assembly. The plague had already started among the people, but Aaron offered the incense and made atonement for them.

Nu. 16:48 He stood between the living and the dead, and the plague stopped.

Nu. 16:49 But 14,700 people died from the plague, in addition to those who had died because of Korah.

Nu. 16:50 Then Aaron returned to Moses at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, for the plague had stopped.

Chapter 16 of the Book of Numbers in the Christian Bible tells the story of a rebellion against Moses and Aaron led by a man named Korah, along with several other Levites and community leaders. Korah and his followers challenge Moses and Aaron's leadership, accusing them of being too controlling and suggesting that they are not the only ones chosen by God to lead the Israelites. Moses responds by proposing a test in which each man will offer incense to God, with the one who is chosen by God being recognized as the rightful leader. However, before this can happen, God intervenes and punishes Korah and his followers with death, causing the earth to open up and swallow them. The chapter concludes with God instructing Moses to have the censers used in the rebellion melted down and made into plates to cover the altar as a reminder to the Israelites not to rebel against God's chosen leaders. Overall, the chapter emphasizes the importance of obedience to God and his appointed leaders, as well as the consequences of rebellion and disobedience.

Here are some of the key verses from chapter 16 of the Book of Numbers in the Christian Bible:

- "Korah son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and certain Reubenites—Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth—became insolent and rose up against Moses. With them were 250 Israelite men, well-known community leaders who had been appointed members of the council." - Numbers 16:1-2
- "Moses also said to Korah, 'Now listen, you Levites! Isn't it enough for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the rest of the Israelite community and brought you near himself to do the work at the Lord's tabernacle and to stand before the community and minister to them?'" - Numbers 16:8-9

- "Then the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them and their households, and all those associated with Korah, together with their possessions." - Numbers 16:32
- "But on the next day the whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. 'You have killed the Lord's people,' they said." - Numbers 16:41

Chapter 16 tells the story of the rebellion led by Korah, Dathan, and Abiram against Moses and Aaron, which ends with God causing the earth to open up and swallow the rebels and their families. The chapter also includes a second incident in which the Israelites complain and accuse Moses and Aaron of causing the death of the rebels, resulting in a plague that kills many more people.

Chapter 16 of the Book of Numbers recounts the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram against Moses and Aaron's leadership. Here's a reflection on some key themes and lessons from Numbers 16:

The Danger of Rebellion and Discontent: In this chapter, Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, along with 250 other leaders, rebel against the authority of Moses and Aaron. They express discontent and challenge the leadership structure that God had established.

Reflection: This chapter serves as a warning about the dangers of rebellion and discontent within a community. It reminds us of the importance of respecting and honoring the leaders whom God has appointed. By cultivating an attitude of humility and contentment, we can promote unity and avoid the destructive consequences of rebellion.

God's Response to Rebellion: When confronted by Korah and his followers, Moses seeks God's guidance and allows Him to intervene. God displays His power and authority by opening up the earth, causing it to swallow Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, along with their families. Additionally, fire consumes the 250 leaders who offered incense.

Reflection: This chapter demonstrates God's sovereignty and His intolerance for rebellion. It teaches us that God will ultimately deal with those who challenge His appointed leaders and disrupt the order He has established. It also highlights the importance of seeking God's guidance and allowing Him to handle conflicts and challenges within the community.

The Role of Intercession: In the face of God's anger, Moses intercedes on behalf of the people, asking God not to punish the entire congregation for the sins of a few individuals. God listens to Moses' intercession and stops the plague that had started among the people.

Reflection: This chapter emphasizes the power and importance of intercession. It shows us that interceding on behalf of others can have a significant impact, even in the midst of judgment or

conflict. By practicing intercession, we demonstrate love and compassion for our fellow community members, seeking their welfare and reconciliation with God.

Confirmation of Leadership: Through this rebellion, God reaffirms Moses' and Aaron's leadership positions. He makes it clear that He has chosen them for their specific roles and responsibilities, distinguishing them from others in the community.

Reflection: This chapter reminds us of the importance of recognizing and respecting the leadership roles appointed by God. It teaches us to honor those whom God has chosen to lead and guide the community. By valuing and supporting our leaders, we contribute to the unity and well-being of the community as a whole.

Overall, Numbers 16 addresses themes of rebellion, the consequences of disobedience, the power of intercession, and the confirmation of God-appointed leadership. By reflecting on these themes, we can strive to cultivate humility and contentment, avoid rebellion and discontent, practice intercession for others, and honor and support the leaders appointed by God in our communities.