

God behaving badly – Is God angry or loving?**Better readers of God's word****A question to expose us**

“Do you like the loving God of the OT or the harsh God of the NT?”

Wrong conclusions because

... we hear what we want to hear ... only read selective passages

... we read a passage and try to apply it to us today without seeking to understand it in its 'salvation historical context'.

Marcion

... 80-160 AD

... OT was a harsh god of justice and law

...while the god of the NT was a benevolent god of mercy and salvation.

Is God angry or loving?

favourite Gary Larson cartoons

The example of Uzzah

... Uzzah dies because God is ANGRY .. but there are good reasons for it.

1) The had refused to listen to YHWH

... God had told them many times how they should carry the ark

The Ark was supposed to be carried WITH poles BY priests.

1 Samuel 7:1 Eleazar was consecrate to look after the ark.

See also 1 Chronicles 15:11-15

2) They insulted YHWH

YHWH was their Ruler who was to be carried by priests ... like a King

3) God is not their Geni

... what they do shows a lack of concern for their covenant relationship with God

What about God's love?

... God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love

When Jesus gets hopping mad.

Jesus made a whip and gave the money changes in the temple a hard time.

The day before ... Jesus was in the temple looking around at everything (Mark 11:11)

But why do people have to die?

We might be surprised when people are put to death for sin when we should be more surprised that any of us are still alive.

When and How we should get angry!

... when people know what God's word says and claim to follow him reject him and his word.

We should get angry at sin ... in our own lives and in the lives of others.

James 1:19-20 "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."