



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of September 8, 2024 Pastor Eric Chabaneix

Exodus 34;1-9

[1] The LORD said to Moses, "Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. [2] Be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain. [3] No one shall come up with you, and let no one be seen throughout all the mountain. Let no flocks or herds graze opposite that mountain." [4] So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first. And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone. [5] The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. [6] The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, [7] keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." [8] And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped. [9] And he said, "If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance."

1. Does it surprise you that God is long suffering? Explain. Imagine a world in which God was not patient. What do you think that world would be like? How has God shown His patience in your life?
2. Think about stories from the Bible that speak of God's power and use them to describe the *omnipotence* of God. Why don't these stories even come close to describing the actual power of Almighty God?
3. Jonathan Edwards, referred to God as the "Dread Supreme." If God is love, why should human beings fear Him? Why is it "*a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God*" as it says in Hebrews 10:31?
4. In our sermon, we heard that "the power of God is the foundation for and ground of His patience." What do you think this means? How did God answer the force of his justice with an even greater exercise of power of patience, mercy, and grace?
5. Throughout history, mankind has tested God's patience again and again and have paid the consequence for it. Think about how you have tested God's patience. Why do you think you test Him so? What impact has God's patience with you had on the way you live your life? What impact *SHOULD* it have?