



### The Incomprehensible One

A whole generation was lost. They did not know God. In Judges 2:13-18, we are given a description of God. In our flesh, we may not like all of the aspects of His character. They may cause us to fear. They will cause understanding to allude us.

Richard Baxter said it well when he said, "You may know God, but not Comprehend Him."

A.W. Tozer noted, "If we would bring back spiritual power to our lives, we must begin to think of God more nearly as He is."

**Theme:** Because God Hates sin, He will pursue you when you forsake Him.

#### **I. Because God hates sin, He will pursue you with Faithful Anger. (2:13-15)**

- Baal was the god of storm and fertility.
- Baal's female counterpart was Ashtaroth.
- In Canaanite theology, the fertility and harvest of the land depended on Baal and Ashtaroth having a sexual relationship.
- The Canaanites were always trying to coax Baal and Ashtaroth into having a physical relationship again.
- The Canaanites practiced "sacred" prostitution as part of their worship.
- Psalm 106 opens the windows even more into the worship practices of the Canaanites.
  - They worshipped the pagan gods by sacrificing their own sons and daughters to demons.
  - They polluted the land with blood.

#### **A. God's anger towards sin shows His Faithfulness to His Word.**

Lev. 26:17 And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you.

#### **B. God's Jealousy shows His love to his people.**

**Exodus 34:14** For thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:

Why lessons can we learn from this aspect of God's character? He is angry because of sin, and jealous because of His love. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **II. Because God hates sin, He will pursue you with Unbelievable Salvation. (2:16)**

**14a** And the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel.

16 Nevertheless the Lord raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them.

What is revealed about God here? Know God. Who is He? \_\_\_\_\_

#### **III. Because God hates sin, He will pursue you with Unwavering Compassion. (2:18)**

##### **A. God does not like to see His people in misery.**

God had compassion on the people because of their "groanings." Most likely, this groaning does not mean repentance. Because the second that the judge died, they returned to their sin.

##### **B. God's mercy never ends.**

Heb. 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. **16** Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

#### **IV. Because God hates sin, He will pursue you with extended patience. (2:20-3:4)**

Psalm 103:8 is merciful and gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

**Conclusion:** I would like to use the conclusion of Dale Davis on this passage of Scripture. What should our response to "the Incomprehensible One" be? If you have any sense of your sinfulness you ought to say with the author of Lamentations, "**22** It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not." and fall down with the prophet Micah when He said, "**18** Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy."

**Final Thought:** \_\_\_\_\_