

Examining the Leaven in the Bread
Embracing the Justice of God
October 11, 2009

- 1) Parable of the Leaven in the Bread Matthew 13:33 *Another parable He spoke to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like (based on the full context, this phrase is best understood the proclamation and offer of the kingdom of heaven is like, not the actual kingdom of heaven) leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."*
 - a. What is the meal a type of?
 - b. What is the leaven?
 - c. What is the state of the church today in regards to the Word of the Kingdom?

- 2) Genesis 3:21 *"The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them."*
 - a. What was God's response to Adam and Eve's sin?
 - b. What was it that God saw when He looked at Adam and Eve?
 - c. How is the love of God working with the justice of God in this act by God?

d. How does God's plan set forth here from the beginning relate to us today in regards to the Church and our sin nature?

3) Psalm 81:11-14

"¹¹But My people did not listen to My voice,

And Israel did not obey Me.

¹²So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their heart,

To walk in their own devices.

¹³Oh that My people would listen to Me,

That Israel would walk in My ways!

¹⁴I would quickly subdue their enemies

And turn My hand against their adversaries.

- a. Why did God give Israel over to the stubbornness of their hearts?
- b. How do you justify an all-loving God turning Israel over to their own evil desires?
- c. How do you see the love of God in these verses?
- d. Do you think God would give Christians over to our own stubborn desires?

e. What is God wanting to do for His people if we would listen to Him?

4) Psalm 10:11-13 *He says in his heart, "God has forgotten, he has hidden his face, he will never see it." Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand; forget not the afflicted. Why does the wicked renounce God and say in his heart, "You will not call to account"?*

- a. What would cause one to believe God has hidden his face and will not see his sin?
- b. Why does the wicked renounce God and say God will not call to account his sin?
- c. Do you ever say this in your heart? Or do your actions maybe show that this is the true thought of your heart?

5) Psalm 18:20-24 ²⁰*The LORD has rewarded me according to my righteousness;*

According to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me.

²¹*For I have kept the ways of the LORD,*

And have not wickedly departed from my God.

²²*For all His ordinances were before me,*

And I did not put away His statutes from me.

²³I was also blameless with Him,

And I kept myself from my iniquity.

²⁴Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness, According to the cleanness of my hands in His eyes.

a. What does the Lord rewards according?

b. What does that look like? What is our “righteousness?”

c. How do we keep ourselves from iniquity?

d. How do we keep the ways of the Lord?

- 6) 1 Peter 1:3-4; 13-19 *“3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you. 13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, 15 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; 16 because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.” 17 If you address as Father the One who*

impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth; 18 knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19 but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. "

- a. What has caused us to be born again?
- b. Why has he caused us to be born again?
- c. Knowing that an inheritance is at stake, what are we to do?
- d. What do obedient children look like?
- e. What does God judge each one according to?
- f. How do we see the love of God working with the justice of God?