



LESSON 3: Banishment Esther 1:13-22

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Read Romans 5:12-14.

What came in to the world through sin?

Was this something that only affected Adam and Eve?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:17-20. Paul is addressing a specific sin here. What sin is Paul talking about?

What is unique about the body of a believer?

Why are we no longer our own masters?

What is Paul's conclusion for how we should act in light of this?

Even though Paul was talking specifically about sexual immorality, this conclusion applies to all sin. Because we are no longer our own masters, because we have been bought with a price, our sin effects more than ourselves.

Read Jeremiah 9:23-24. How does the Lord describe Himself here?

Why should our goal be to understand those characteristics of God? (Hint: end of verse 24)

Read Proverbs 28:4-6. According to this proverb, what do those who hate the law do?

What do those who keep the law do?

What do evil men not understand?

Why is it better to be poor but have integrity than rich and be deceitful?

What does that look like in your day-to-day life?

As you spend time with God today, consider the characteristics of God that He lists in Jeremiah 9.

Do you believe that God is just? That He is righteous? Do you believe that He is those things and steadfastly loves us, as well? If so, how does that reconcile with our human feelings of “That’s not fair”?

Who is right, you or God?

When we question whether God loves us or whether He truly is just and will punish the wicked, who are we trusting to be in control, God, or ourselves? In those moments, we often claim (sometimes without knowing it!) that we know better than God because we see something that seems so unfair to our human eyes.

It comes down to this question: do you trust God and who He says He is? If not, perhaps, today, your prayer can echo the prayer of the father in Mark 9 who asked Jesus to help his unbelief. Ask God to help your unbelief and your lack of trust; ask Him to show you in His Word who He is, and ask Him to give you the faith to trust Him.