

THE FATHER JESUS REVEALS

Satanic deception presents a false view of the character of God. Satan pictures God as untrustworthy, distant, offended to the point of needing retaliation, quick to punish, and as one more concerned with compliance to his law than restoration of the human soul.

But Jesus revealed God who touches the unclean, eats with sinners, heals before correcting, forgives freely, does not retaliate, does not force compliance, gives freedom of personal choice, and is more concerned with restoration than producing fear of punishment.

Which authority figure promotes healthy rescue from sin? Is it the one who relies on unholy fear and unpredictable punishment, where enforcement of rules is of utmost importance, or is it where authority is respected in an atmosphere of safety, questions are welcomed, and correction aims at restoration rather than humiliation?

People were drawn to Jesus because they felt safe. Today, people need to be drawn to God because He is trustworthy and safe. PSA, penal substitutionary atonement theory, does not represent the safe, trustworthy, and true character of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

PSA presents a God who needs to be appeased, who requires a payment in order to forgive others, who punishes the innocent in place of the guilty, and satisfies justice by killing Jesus.

But forgiveness is not a legal declaration designed to cancel the penalty of sin. God's forgiveness is the absence of His personal condemnation of sin so that healing and restoration can proceed. God has declared that He does not hold our sin against us. God holds no one back from restoration in Christ.

Sin condemns, not God. God was in Christ on the cross condemning sin. Sin was defeated for humanity in Christ. The sinless death of Jesus defeated and condemned sin to removal from creation. The Last Adam, Jesus Christ, is victorious for humanity. Jesus arose with all power and authority to remove sin.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 Romans 8:1-3 Romans 5 Matthew 28:18 Revelation 21,22