

Indifference or Longsuffering (much patience)?

If there is a God (most definitely there is One), is He **indifferent** to what goes on in this world? Think of the disasters, catastrophes, wars, pandemics, violence, corruption; any awakened soul has to be concerned. But many people drown out such fears by immersing themselves in passing pleasures. They refuse to even give a thought to a future that is quickly looking darker. They falsely believe there is no God who could ever remain so **indifferent** in the face of such universal misery. If He is so good, how could he ever permit these events to unfold without intervening?

But contradicting this conclusion, we can read about the world full of violence and corruption in the days just before the great flood way back in the Old Testament: "***the longsuffering of God*** waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water". (1 Peter 3:20). Farther on, in Peter's second letter, we can also read: "*The Lord is not slack concerning His promises, as some men count slackness, but is **longsuffering** to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance*". 2 Peter 3:9. And more: "*the **longsuffering** of our Lord is salvation*". (2 Peter 3:15).

God is so **patient** with us and with you. Yet, His judgments are without appeal for all those who don't realize their lost condition before Him and will definitely suffer eternal consequences. The world's humanism has gradually deprived people of any teaching about God. All the while, God, in His immense love and mercy towards you, wants to rescue you from the destiny that awaits all those who are still lost. Therefore He is **patiently** waiting because many are paying close attention to what is happening all around and are becoming more ready to listen to God's call.

'Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? Says the Lord God: and not that he should turn from his ways, and live? (Ezekiel 18:23)'

"And the times of this ignorance, God winked at, but now commands all men everywhere to repent." (Acts 17:30)

The simple, effective and complete message God wants you to have: "*Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ*" (Acts 20:21). *Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved*" Acts 4:12.

*"God....endured with much **longsuffering** the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction"* Romans 9:22. The Apostle Paul is a shining example of one to whom this **patience** was shown (see 1 Timothy 1:16). In the days of Noah, we read that just a few people benefited from the **patience** of God. Won't you come and be among the millions who in our times have taken advantage of this **patience**: and thus believe for yourself the only way to avoid eternal torment and accept the free salvation, paid for by Jesus Christ Himself. Repent of your sins and believe in Jesus, the Son of God Who came "*into the world to save sinners*". (1 Timothy 1:15). God is very **patient**, but this patience will soon come to an end; don't be **indifferent**.

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