

**REFORMERS**

**NETWORK**

**INTERNATIONAL**

**SCHOOL OF TRANSFORMATION AND REFORMATION (SOTAR)**

**TOPIC: CAN GOD ABANDON MAN?**

**FACILITATOR: EMMANUEL PETERS**

**DATE: 29/08/2020**

**TIME: 8:00PM**

**VENUE: RNI WHATSAPP PLATFORM**

**Prayer:**

***Lord I pray that you teach us tonight and help us receive your implanted word that saves souls with meekness in Jesus name.***

So, I woke up to this statement today, from the TV, my parents were listening to a sermon, and this were the very words that woke me

*"E no get as you take fine reach, God go abandon you"*

I'll type the English version

*"God will abandon you regardless of how beautiful you are"*

This sparked a reaction, and a controlled argument ensued in my mind. He said this with so much passion, you could tell he believed it. So it begs the question, " can God abandon his own?" and if yes, "under what circumstance's?"

You know, when you read through the old testament, through the old testament, you'd notice how God's children never stayed in one place. Their hearts kept whoring after strange gods. This was their perpetual state, and it always made God unpleased.

Check this scripture out; **Isaiah 65:1-7**

***[1]The lord says, “I was ready to respond, but no one asked for help. I was ready to be found, but no one was looking for me. I said, ‘Here I am, here I am!’ to a nation that did not call on my name.***

***[2]All day long I opened my arms to a rebellious people. But they follow their own evil paths and their own crooked schemes.***

***[3]All day long they insult me to my face by worshiping idols in their sacred gardens. They burn incense on pagan altars.***

***[4]At night they go out among the graves, worshiping the dead. They eat the flesh of pigs and make stews with other forbidden foods.***

***[5]Yet they say to each other, ‘Don’t come too close or you will defile me! I am holier than you!’ These people are a stench in my nostrils, an acrid smell that never goes away.***

***[6]“Look, my decree is written out in front of me: I will not stand silent; I will repay them in full! Yes, I will repay them—***

***[7]both for their own sins and for those of their ancestors,” says the lord. “For they also burned incense on the mountains and insulted me on the hills. I will pay them back in full!***

Their actions provoked a reaction, and God was always right to be angry. One time I thought, "why don't God kill these annoying Israelites and carry us Nigerians", God will be surprised how loyal we'll be, but when we look at verse 8 and 9 of the same scripture

**Isaiah 65:8-9**

***[8]“But I will not destroy them all,” says the lord. “For just as good grapes are found among a cluster of bad ones (and someone will say, ‘Don’t throw them all away—  some of those grapes are good!’), so I will not destroy all Israel.  For I still have true servants there.***

***[9]I will preserve a remnant of the people of Israel and of Judah to possess my land. Those I choose will inherit it, and my servants will live there.***

Quite amazing, how a seemingly angry God could be so merciful that he saves a remnant instead of letting them die in their sin.

All through scriptures, we developed a habit of pushing God away, not the other way round. Still guys, we are balanced Christians , so we understand that God is merciful not partial. He has to be just to be able to justify us

So, you know this popular statement, "*your cup don full today*", " *leave am, hin cup go soon full*". It's kind of scriptural

**Genesis 15**

***[16]After four generations your descendants will return here to this land, for the sins of the Amorites do not yet warrant their destruction.”***

**Jeremiah 25**

***[15]This is what the lord, the God of Israel, said to me: “Take from my hand this cup filled to the brim with my anger, and make all the nations to whom I send you drink from it.***

**Lamentations 4**

***[21]Are you rejoicing in the land of Uz, O people of Edom? But you, too, must drink from the cup of the lord’s anger. You, too, will be stripped naked in your drunkenness.***

God never punished unjustly, he isn't like that wicked math teacher that punished you for the fun of it. He waited patiently for it to get to a certain level, then, you can guess what comes next. God hates sin, sin attracts his anger, so that mighty cup was full of God's anger. My Lord! and the wages of sin is death.

Back to that statement, *e no get as you take fine reach, God go abandon you, if you provoke him to anger.*

Can I ever annoy God to the extent that he'll abandon me? God is not a liar, so let's go to his word.

**Deuteronomy 31**

***[6]So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you.”***

Let's see what Apostle Paul has to say about this. **Hebrews 13:8b**

***[5]b. “I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.”***

He is saying, nothing has the ability to make me abandon you. Infact let me speak on God's behalf

GOD HAVE NOT CREATED THAT THING THAT CAN MAKE ME ABANDON YOU

**Matthew 26**

***[39]He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, “My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.”***

Christ revealed something beautiful here. God knew that our sins are mighty and if he punished us accordingly, it would be grievous. So he sent his son and the word drank completely the cup brimming with God's anger. Christ that knew no sin literally became sin, so we would be him which is righteous. In football it is called substitution.

Can God change his mind? The same Hebrews 13 but verse 8 says

**Hebrews 13**

***[8]Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.***

God is not changing his mind anytime soon guys. Nothing is separating us from him. Infact he wanted so badly to be close to you, yes you condemning yourself right now, he wanted to be so close to you that he chose to live right inside you.

Our cup bin don full but check this scripture out

**Romans 3:22-24**

***[22]We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.***

***[23]For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.***

***[24]Yet God freely and graciously declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.***

This God is just amazing. I'll end with this guys.

The ministry of Jesus answers this question, his ministry is the ministry of reconciliation. God himself died to win us over. This is the perfect love story. God would not go through all that trouble to win your heart over just to abandon you, never!. You are stuck with God guys. You are stuck with him

God bless you all

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