

Paul, His Life and Teachings



Paul's Theology God (Part 3)

Lesson 41

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“Justice for all”



What comes to your mind when you think of Judge?





Tigger is an
“Anthropomorphism”

Ascribing human forms on
non-humans!

God as “Judge”



Paul is using “courtroom” language

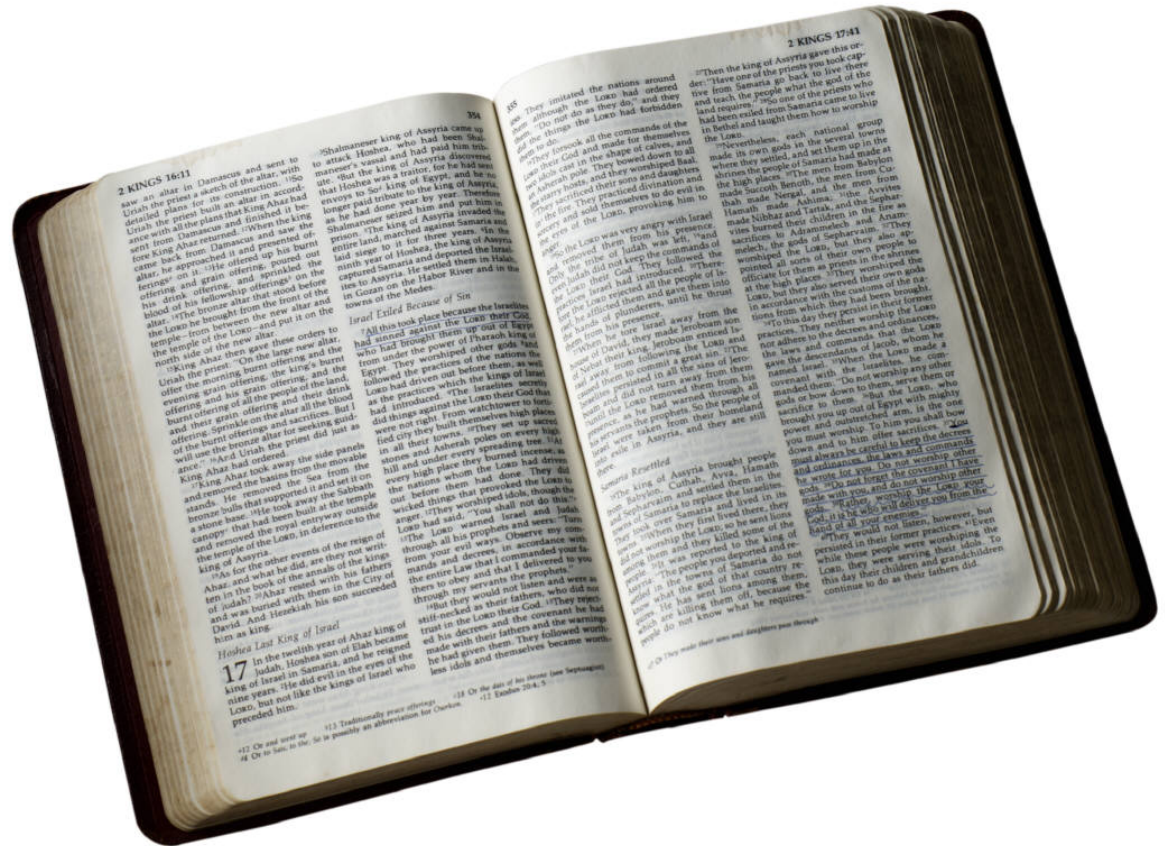
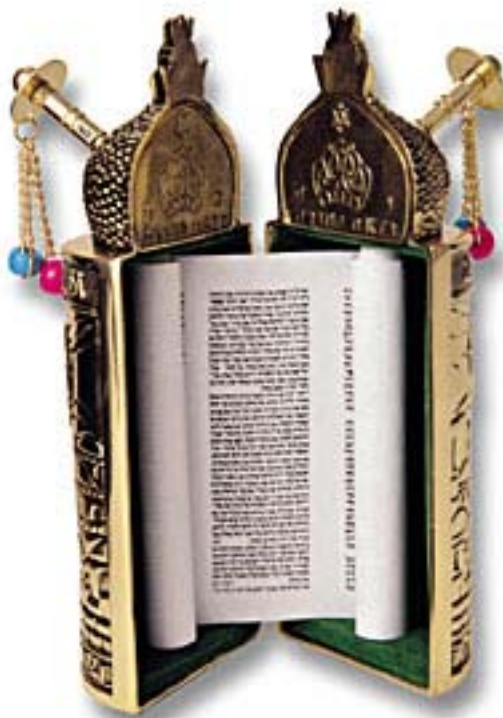


Paul is using “courtroom” language

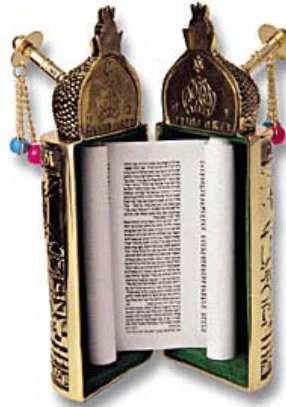


Paul is also using Old Testament language

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Understand the Old Testament usage



Understand the
Old Testament
usage



Understand
Paul's usage





Understand the
Old Testament
usage

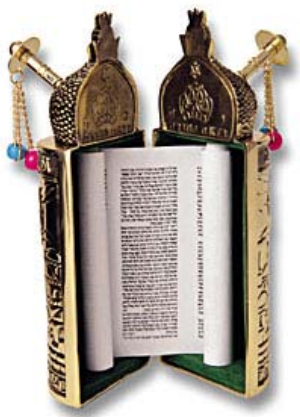


Understand
Paul's usage



God's word

A light to our path



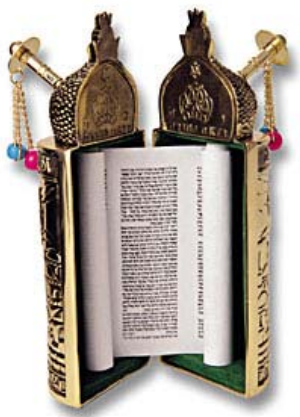
God Judges Israel as a nation





God Judges foreign nations





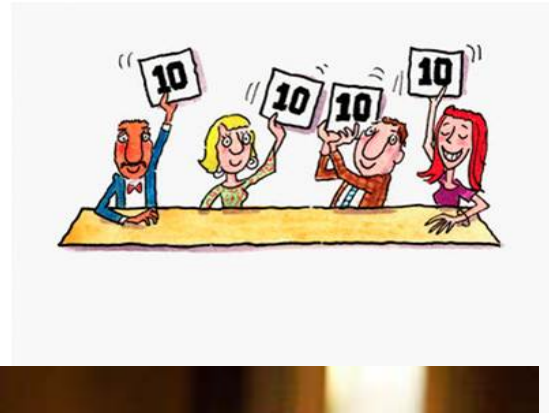
God Judges individuals



What kind of a judge is God?



What kind of a judge is God?



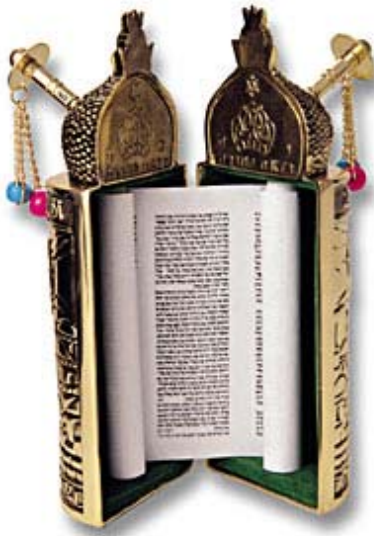
What does “Judge” mean in the Old Testament?



Shapat -



What does “Judge” mean in the Old Testament?



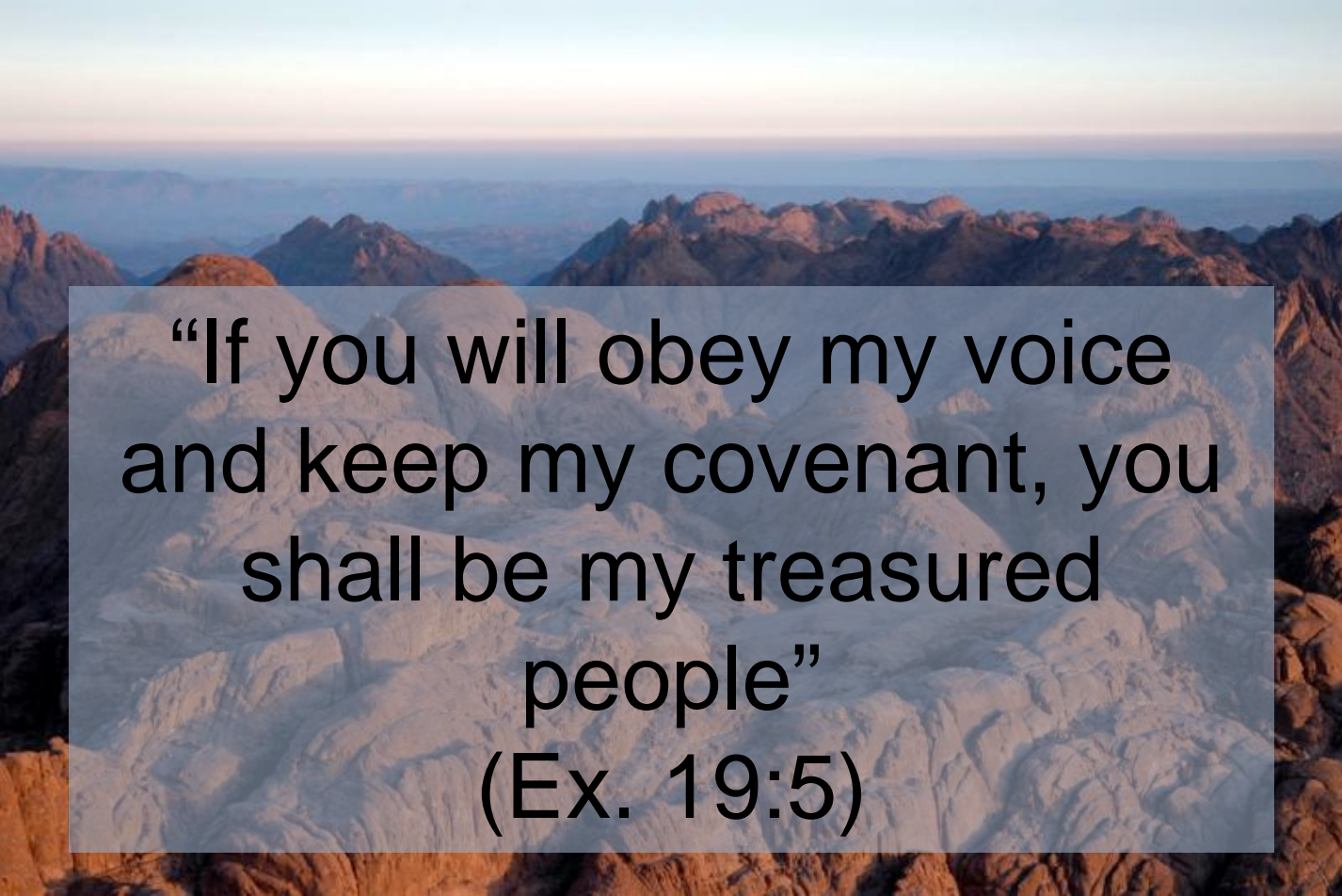
Shapat - פ ש פ

The Hebrew for
“Judge” also
implies “Ruler”

God is both Ruler and Judge under the covenant at Sinai

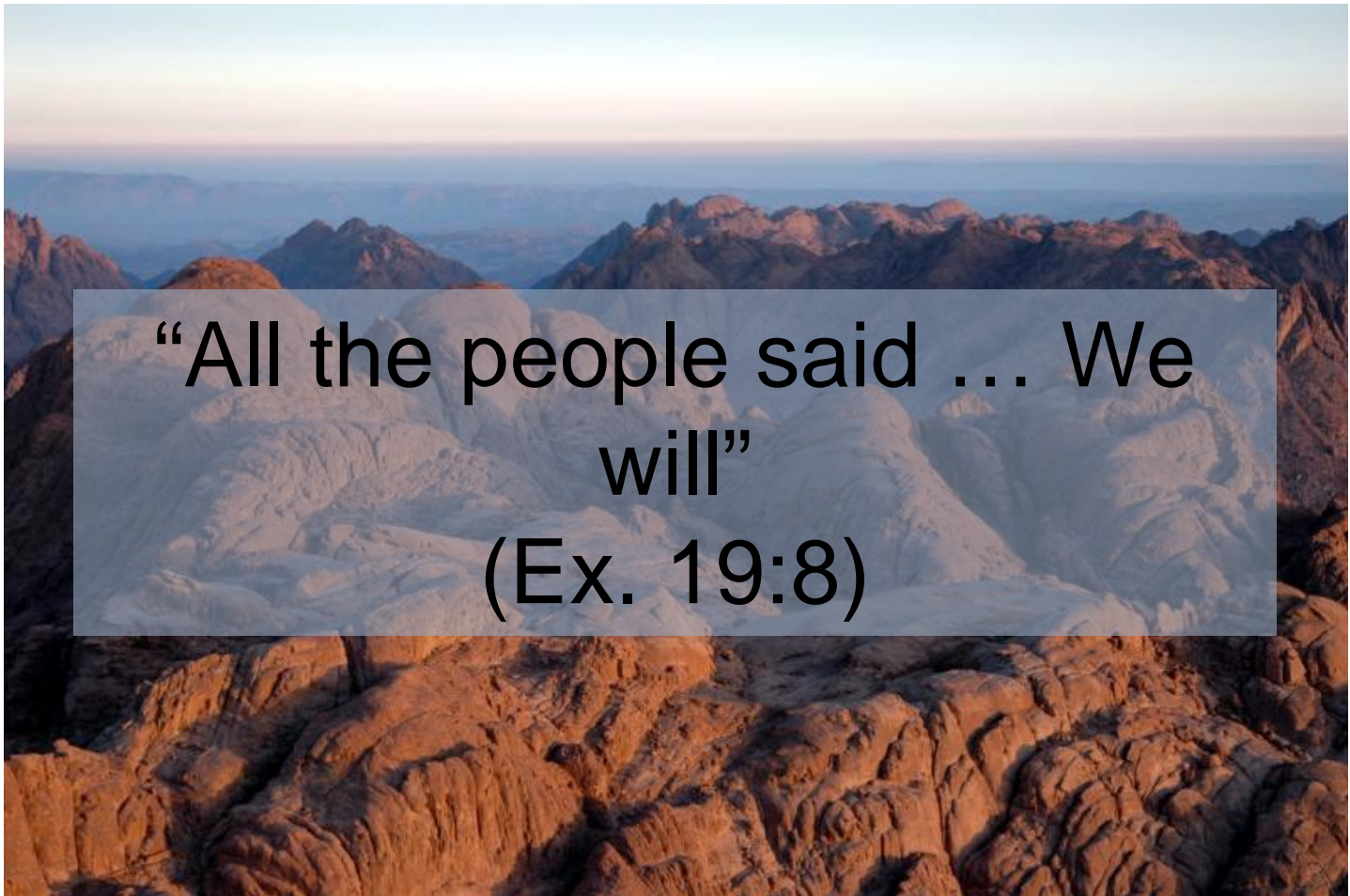


God is both Ruler and Judge under the covenant at Sinai

A photograph of a mountain range at sunset or sunrise, with a semi-transparent text box overlaid. The mountains are rugged and rocky, with some peaks illuminated by the warm light of the setting or rising sun. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, oranges, and blues. The text is centered within the semi-transparent box.

“If you will obey my voice
and keep my covenant, you
shall be my treasured
people”
(Ex. 19:5)

God is both Ruler and Judge under the covenant at Sinai



As ruler God sets out the
“Thou Shalts” and “Thou shalt nots”



What does God use for judging?



God's judgments:
separate out good from evil



God's judgments: separate out good from evil



Solomon prays to “judge rightly” to
“discern between good and evil”
(1 Kings 3:9)

God's judgments:
seek to level the playing field



God's judgments:
seek to level the playing field



“Every valley filled, every hill made low, the crooked become straight, the rough level”

God's judgments:
the proud brought down, the humble lifted



God's judgments:
the proud brought down, the humble lifted



“The Lord is exalted in justice ... the haughty
are brought low” (Isaiah 5:16, 15)

God's judgments:
the proud brought down, the humble lifted



“The Lord is exalted in justice ... the haughty
are brought low” (Isaiah 5:16, 15)

God's judgments: God champions the cause of the needy



God's judgments: God champions the cause of the needy



“Bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow’s cause” (Isaiah 1:17)

God's judgments:
God is interested in social justice



God's judgments: God is interested in social justice



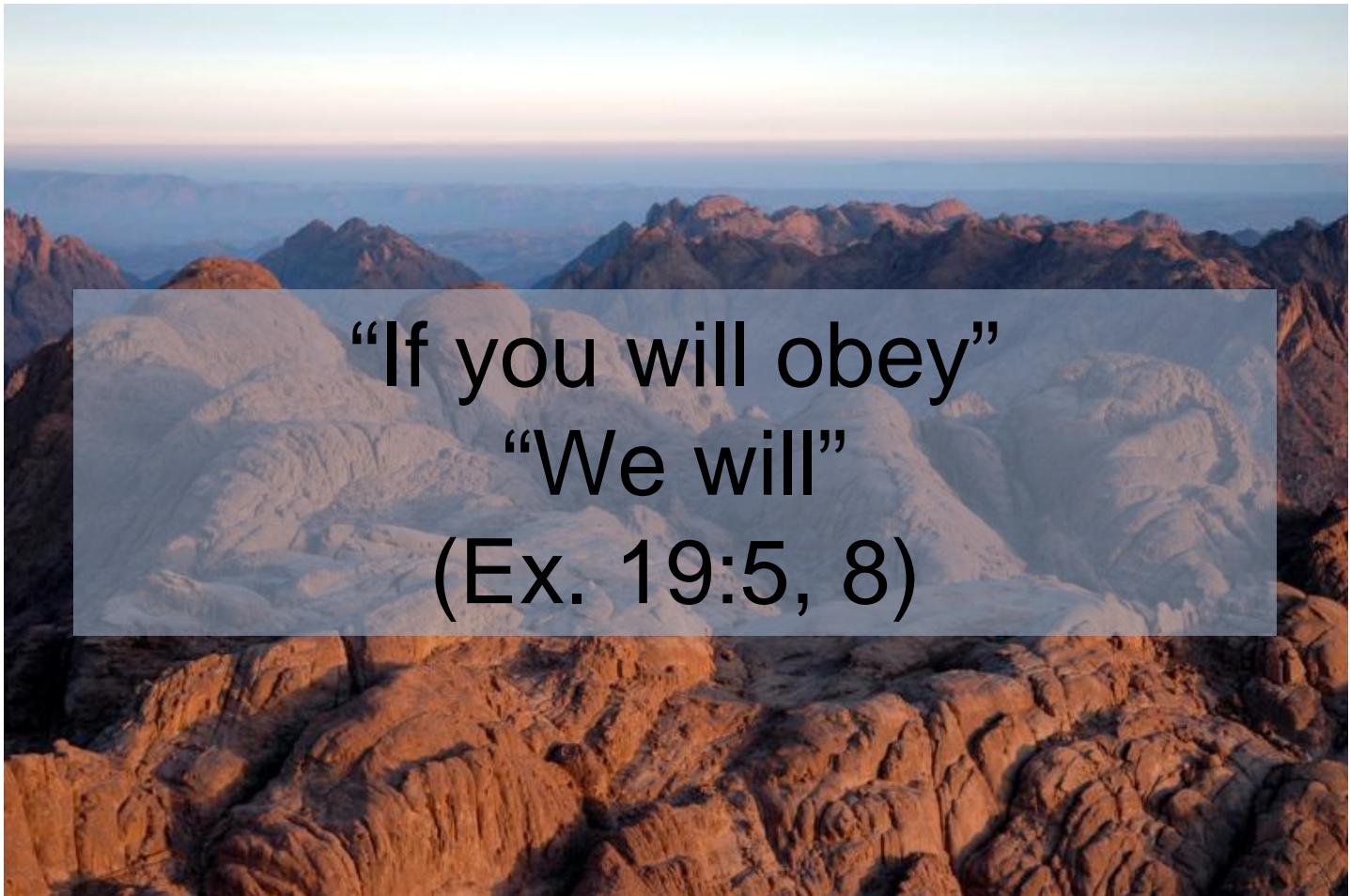
“You shall not pervert
the justice due to
your poor in his
lawsuit” (Ex. 23:6)

God exercises his judgments faithful to:
the covenant and his own righteousness

God exercises his judgments faithful to:
the covenant and his own righteousness



God exercises his judgments faithful to:
the covenant and his own righteousness



God exercises his judgments faithful to:
the covenant and **his own righteousness**

God exercises his judgments faithful to:
the covenant and **his own righteousness**



God exercises his judgments faithful to:
the covenant and **his own righteousness**



“What does the Lord
require of you but to
do justice, and to
love kindness, and to
walk humbly with
your God” (Mic. 6:8)

God exercises his justice faithfully and consistently



God exercises his justice faithfully and consistently



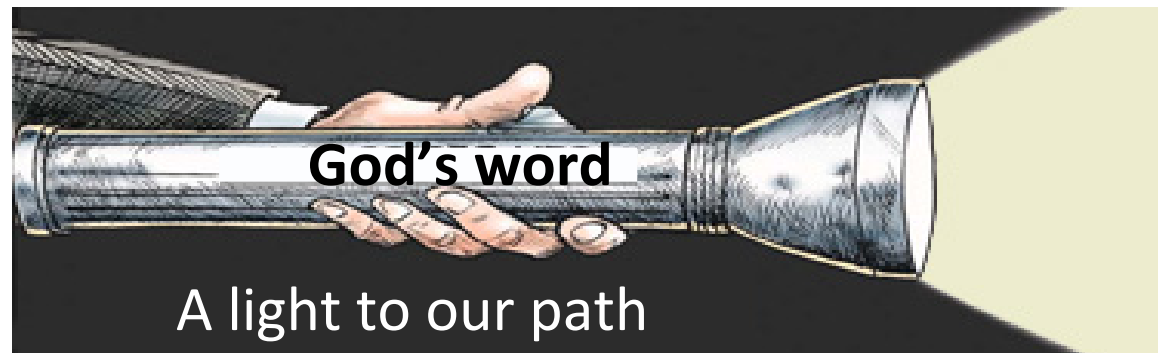
“The rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he.” (Dt. 32:4)



Understand the
Old Testament
usage



Understand
Paul's usage



A light to our path



Understand the
Old Testament
usage



Understand
Paul's usage





Paul saw the problem



Paul saw the problem

“If you will obey”
“We will”
(Ex. 19:5, 8)



Paul saw the problem

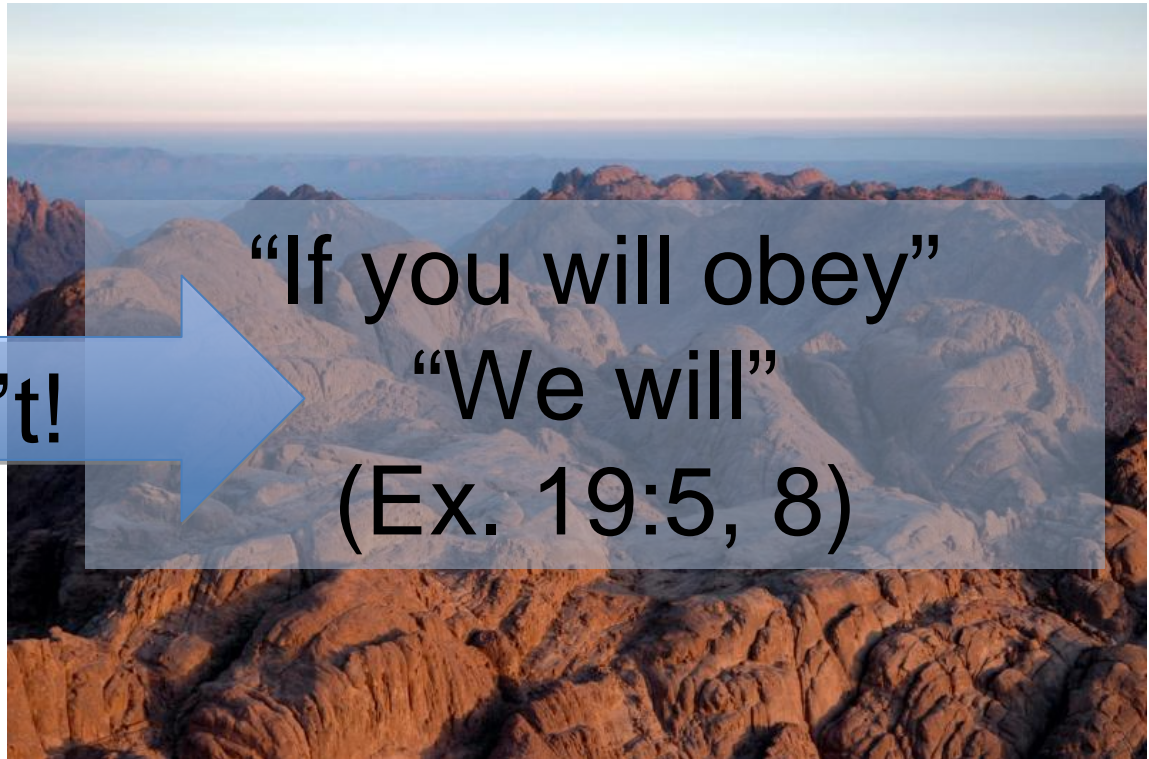
We don't!



“If you will obey”

“We will”

(Ex. 19:5, 8)





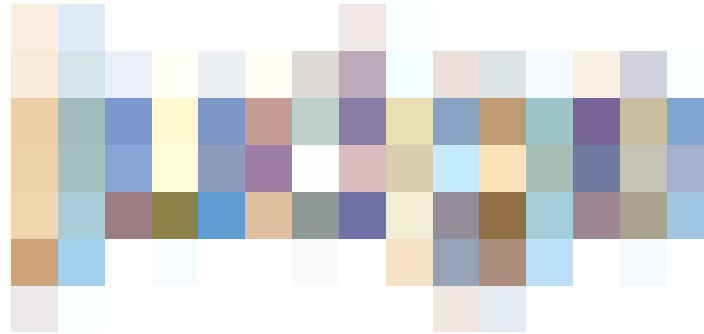
Paul knew the solution



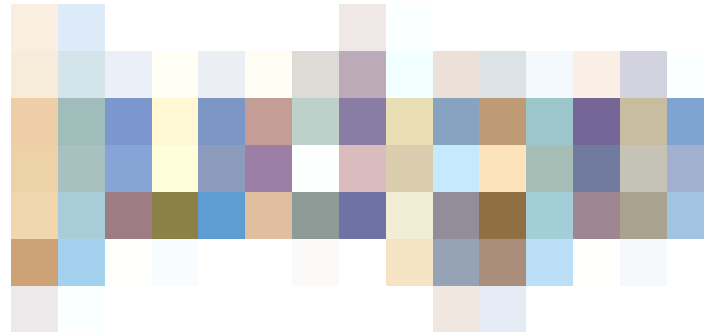
Paul knew the solution



Has Paul changed the focus of God as Judge?



Has Paul changed the focus of God as Judge?



NO!

God's judgments:
separate out good from evil



God's judgments:
separate out good from evil



God "test our hearts"
(1 Thes. 2:4)

God's judgments:
seek to level the playing field



“God considers it just to repay with affliction
those who afflict you” (2 Thes. 1:6-7)

God's judgments: seek to level the playing field



“Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap”
(Gal. 6:7)

God's judgments:
the proud brought down, the humble lifted



God's judgments: the proud brought down, the humble lifted



“Walk with all humility” (Eph 4:2)

“In humility count others more significant” (Ph 2:3)

“Put on humility” (Col. 3:12)

God's judgments: God champions the cause of the needy



God's judgments: God champions the cause of the needy



Paul has harsh words for the judgments of the rich in 1 Corinthians 4

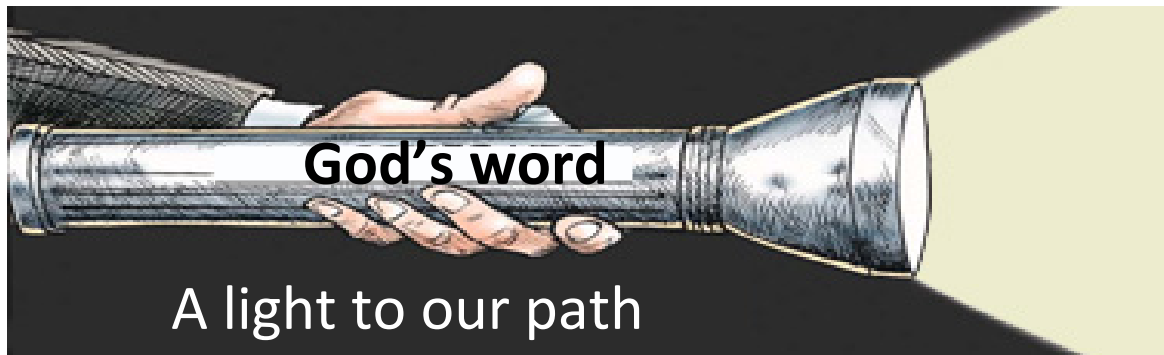
God's judgments:
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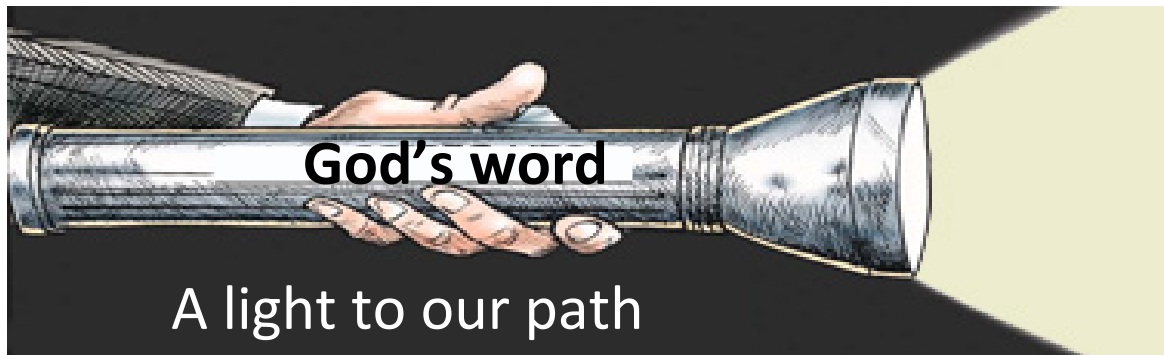
Paul's letter to
Philemon is one of
social justice



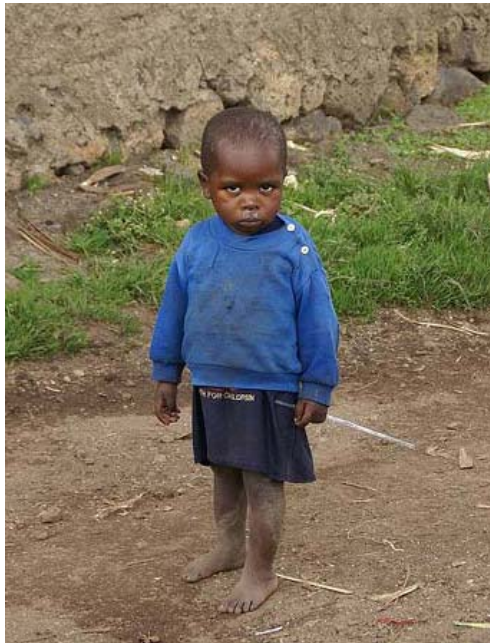
Points for Home



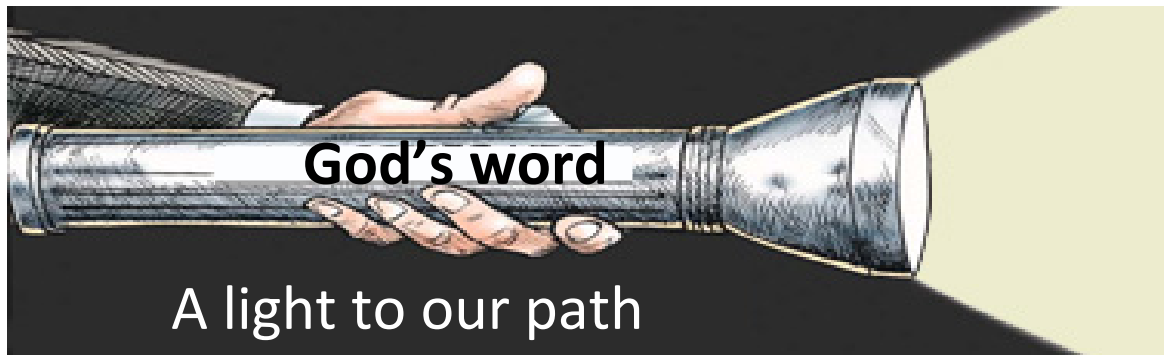
“Let not the wise boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches”
Boast in knowing the Lord of justice!
(Jer. 9:23-24)



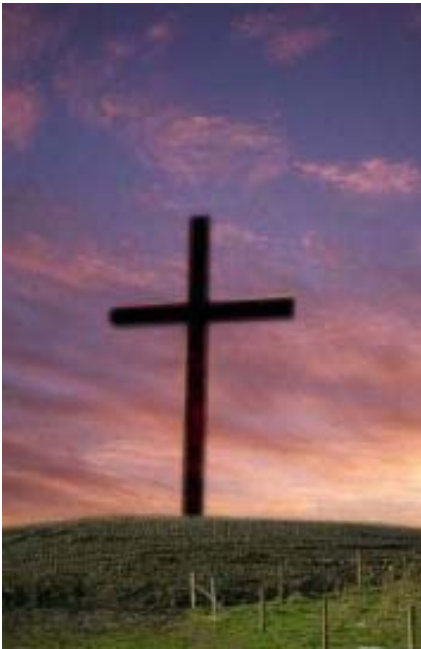
Points for Home



“Bring justice to the fatherless,
plead the widow’s cause.”
(Isa. 1:17)



Points for Home



“The righteousness of God
through faith in Jesus Christ.”
(Rom. 3:21)