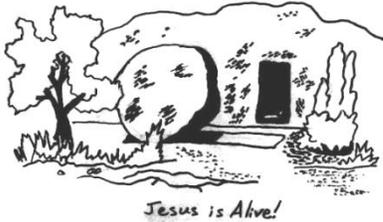


Living God Ministries

Living God Ministries PO Box 38353 Colorado Springs, CO 80937 www.livinggodministries.net

September 1, 2025



New Radio Programs

Four new programs on the First Book to the Corinthians have been uploaded to the radio archive:

- 1 Corinthians 6:1-8 Judgment in the Church
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Who are You?
- 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Live by Who You Are
- 1 Corinthians 7:1-9 Closeness in Marriage

Question on Punishment

I've been reading through the Old Testament and some of the scriptures about punishing the children for the fathers sins are:

Exodus 20:5 and 37:7

Then in Ezekiel 18:19:23 it says that the children are not to be punished for the father's sins.

The Response:

For Exodus 20:5, with reference to God punishing, visiting, or in some way intervening in the lives of children to the third and fourth generations of the fathers who hate Him, I would start with the word itself that gets translated into

punish or visit. This word that He chose is a very generic word that is used to construct a lot of different words in other places in the Scriptures. It is more of an open ended word that allows for a lot of uncertainty when it comes to what a person will or will not do. There are other words in Hebrew that are more suitable if a person wants to express specifics like punishment, revenge, or direct consequences. So, keeping in mind the other words He could have chosen, I would say that this describes the idea there will be some effect or consideration by Him on the children due to their father's sins, but He won't be bound to any specifics and this is open to anything He might do or not do on a case by case basis. It's a way of saying something like, "you had better not sin, or for 3 or 4 generations from you, your grandchildren and great grand children, well, something could happen that will effect them, from me or maybe not directly from me, but lets just not go there for now, leave this open ended, and let me tell you that you are not going to like it, so don't sin and we won't have to go there." I know this is not as concrete as people would like, but this is a way of understanding we have a relational God, not a God of stone bound to specific laws like He did to the children of Israel here, when establishing the nation of Israel through the Mosaic Law.

Applying this to Ezekiel 18:19-23, God left the decisions open ended enough for Himself that He can relate to the sons however He wants to. If they are obedient enough to Him individually, He might just do nothing, for those who are not, He still might do something or not do anything. You can consider no one will obey perfectly, so everyone can be punished for their own sins regardless of what their fathers did or

did not do. The point is that God is relational and responsive, and whatever He does or does not do will be consistent with His personal objectives, and not necessarily according to a standard of Law He is bound to. I know this might seem unfair that we are bound to definitions of good and evil, and He is not, but remember, He is God and we are not. I believe His personal objectives of having people in His life who are in His life because they want to be, and know Him because they want to know Him are going to take precedence, and what He does or does not do will be more about how to improve these outcomes. We can get distracted by the outcomes of indulging or restraining the flesh, but in the end I do not see these issues being as important to God as most of us would like.

To me, this is a way of understanding we have a relational God, and not one who is the equivalent of a God of stone. This being open ended I think is intentional to emphasize this.

Hope this helps,
Aaron

Radio Stations

We are broadcasting on the following radio stations:

Denver, CO KLTT 670 AM 5:00 – 5:30 pm
Denver, CO KRKS 990 AM 3:00 – 3:30 pm
Colorado Springs, CO 100.7 FM 7:00 – 7:30 pm
Sacramento, CA KCBC 770 AM 8:30 – 9:00 am
Los Angeles, CA KBRT 740 AM 5:30 – 6:00 pm
Dallas, TX KWRD 100.7 FM 3:00 – 3:30 pm
Milwaukee, WI WJOI 1340 AM 11:30 – 12 pm
Milwaukee, WI WJOI 98.7 FM 11:30 – 12 pm