

Making it Personal



SERMON NOTES



1. How did this study challenge the way you've been viewing God or the war/violence passages in the Old Testament?

2. What issues does this study raise that are still issues today?

Next Week – Crossroads Series

We Are Better Off Without Religion
James 1:23-27

The challenge against the value of religion continues to escalate. From secular claims about the harm religion creates, to the high-profile believers who have either damaged the faith or have walked away altogether.

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God is Violent and Cruel
Deuteronomy 7:1-4
Crossroads – Part 3
January 23, 2022

Life Group Study Notes



Series Summary – Crossroads (6 Part Series)

Standing at a crossroads is the place that demands a decision. Do I go left, or do I stay right? When it comes to matters of faith and belief, there are questions that will force us to stand at a crossroad. Do I let it destroy any belief in God or do I learn from it and grow a deeper faith?

This Week’s Message – God is Violent and Cruel

To our modern sensibilities, the thought of a bloody and barbaric God is appalling. How do we make any sense from passages that call into question God’s goodness?

Study – Discovering What the Bible Says



1. What was one major takeaway from last week’s study? (Hint: It involved the topic of truth)
2. What is more difficult for you to reconcile or understand. Why God allows suffering or the violence/war passages in the Old Testament?

Read Deuteronomy chapter 7 (The message only dealt with 7:1-4)

3. What are the repeated warnings given to the Israelites in Deuteronomy 7 and why is this detail important for understanding such passages?

4. What were the four points given in the message about how NOT to deal with the problem?
 - a. An _____ problem the _____ corrects.
 - b. The Old Testament _____ has unrelieved _____.
 - c. The Israelites _____ God.
 - d. An _____ for spiritual _____.
5. What points were presented to help us wrestle through the violence/war passages in the Old Testament.
 - a. _____ and the _____ of God.
 - b. _____ leads to _____.
 - c. _____ become fuel for _____.
 - d. The nature of _____ and the “_____” principle.
 - e. In our present world, we need to _____ easy _____.
6. Are there any other comments or lessons from the message or subject you would like to discuss?

Resources for further study.
The God I Don’t Understand by Christopher Wright
Confronting Christianity by Rebecca McLaughlin
Bloody, Brutal, and Barbaric by Bill Webb and Gord Oeste