

What God Does For His People

Introduction. It is magnificently amazing to see God's handiwork in creation (Psalm 19:1-6). God has finely tuned His universe with amazing accuracy. For example, the next total eclipse will be July 2, 2019 and the next total eclipse for North America will be April 8, 2024, but we have been able to calculate it for the last 400 years! The universe is unbelievably accurate. The Voyager 1 spacecraft is now 12 billion miles away from earth. After engineers reoriented the spacecraft's antennae towards earth, it took the signal almost 20 hours to reach us! The universe is unbelievably vast.

But the creation is unbelievably impressive because it is physical. Given that, can you imagine how awe-inspiring God's spiritual blessings are? Observing the physical is awesome, but the physical world cannot teach me what God wants from me. Psalm 149:4 says, "For the Lord taketh pleasure in his people," So what does God do for His people spiritually?

I. God Chooses His People

- A. 1 Corinthians 1:23-27.
- B. Acts 9:13-15.
- C. 2 Timothy 2:3-5.
- D. To redeem them from spiritual death.

II. God Calls His People

- A. Romans 8:26-28.
- B. 2 Timothy 1:6-11.
- C. 1 Peter 5:10.
- D. To provide an avenue for them to truly know God.

III. God Cleanses His People

- A. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.
- B. Revelation 7:13-14.
- C. John 15:12-14.
- D. To save them from their sins.

IV. God Chastens His People

- A. Hebrews 12:4-6.
- B. Amos 4:6-12.
- C. Psalm 32:1-5.
- D. To give them a mind to repent.

V. God Counsels His People

- A. Revelation 3:15-22.
- B. 2 Chronicles 10:6-8.
- C. Psalm 73:21-28.
- D. To produce the effects of repentance.

VI. God Comforts His People

- A. 2 Corinthians 1:3-6.
- B. 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12.
- C. Ephesians 6:18-24.
- D. To encourage them in the right path.

VII. God Crowns His People

- A. Psalm 103:1-4.
- B. James 1:12-18.
- C. 1 Peter 5:1-4.
- D. To lead them to everlasting life.

Conclusion. God is viewed very harshly in the Old Testament. In many places, He commanded nations and enemies to be “utterly destroyed” (Deuteronomy 2:34; 3:6; 20:17; Joshua 11:20; 1 Samuel 15:3, 18). However, in the New Testament, the focus turns to eternal punishment instead of physical punishment. In order to turn mankind from eternal punishment, the New Testament abundantly displays His grace.

So let God cleanse you. You have been chosen and called by the gospel. Obey it. If you’re a Christian who is wayward, let God chasten and counsel you to repentance. Once repentance has occurred, He will comfort and crown you.