

Scripture Reading: Numbers 25:1-18

God is Love but at the same time His holiness is a consuming fire that destroys sin.

It is true that God is pleased to bless Israel, but at the same time He desires that Israel be a Holy nation. Since the crafty supplication of the King of Moab was rejected by God, he sent in Midianites and women of Moab into the camp of Israel to commit adultery with them according to Balaam's suggestion. Even though the Israelites knew that it was a sin that God hates, they took His grace and mercy for granted and gave into the sin of adultery. The anger of God was revealed as a consuming fire. 24000 people died on a single day. When people wept and repented of their sins by killing those who committed adultery, God turned away from His anger. Then God told Moses to kill all the Medianites and Moabites in their midst so that the people would not go back to their sinful ways. Moses did likewise.

Question:

God who didn't allow Balaam to even curse the Israelites, why did He allow the death of 24000 people?

Answer:

God is full of love and also the most holy one. He chose Israel as His own people to be a Holy generation. He chose for Himself almost 15,00,000 Israelites out of Egypt. Out of these, 24000 sinned daringly against God. God will never dwell in the midst of sin. If He departs from their midst, the devil will use the Canaanites living around them and destroy all the 15,00,000 people completely. That's the reason, God Himself destroyed those 24000 people and thus brought in Godly fear to the rest of the people in order to protect them. He is a righteous God. There was no blood of Jesus at that time to forgive their sins. But in these days of the New Covenant, the mercy and grace of God through the blood of Jesus pacifies the anger of God. Thus we are not destroyed. Brother/sister, I beseech you to not provoke God to anger.

"Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off." Romans 11:22

Prayer

Most holy righteous heavenly father, thank You for being compassionate over a sinner like me. Give me the strength to live holy. Amen