

December 1, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Ps. 103:8-10 *“The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will He harbor His anger forever; He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.”*

Psalm 103 is one of my favorite Psalms. It is rich with the love of our Father. One of the reasons is that He does not treat us as our sins deserve. You’ve probably heard people say that a person is just getting what they deserve. What we deserve is to be separated from God forever because of our sin. But, because of His great love, He chose to put all of our sins upon His Son Jesus. He took the penalty for our sin so that we could experience forgiveness and freedom.

The Hebrew phrase for *slow to anger* is **erech appayim** which means *long tempered, patient and slow to be angered*. When you compare that to most of us, we see that we are typically easily angered. We are usually quick to speak out or act out. But our Father is kind, compassionate, loving and caring towards His children. He is so very patient with us. We need to learn the patience of God in our own lives. Think of the relationships we have harmed because we too often erupt with anger or lash out with our words. He is perfectly patient with us. He is always giving us opportunities to come to Him and share our burdens with Him. He desires to help us in our stress and struggles.

Remember He says in **Mt. 11:28-30** *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”* Our Father desires for us to run to Him rather than to run to the philosophies of this fallen world. He always knows what is best for us. Would you run to the Father today? Cast yourself at His feet. Bow in His presence. Be held in His wonderful, magnificent arms. He is not mad at you; He is patient with you, and He loves you.

Dear LORD, help us to realize that You love us more than we could ever imagine. You are so patient when we are not. Help us to be filled with Your Spirit today so that we might show Your love and patience with others. In Jesus Name, Amen