

'Theocracy' of the Old Testament

This started at the time of the Israelite Exodus from Egypt (a. 1400 BC) to 400 BC. We found that the God of the Universe is able to tell you everything that has gone on in the past and/or future. This explains why in the Old Testament, prophets recite so much horrible happenings and it seems that God Himself is causing it. Not so, except in very extreme instances like the ground opening up and swallowing Korah, Dathan, and Abiram (Numbers 16:1-34). It is also seen at the final judgement of this world when 'Sin' will be destroyed & those who have chosen to hang on to it regardless of God's urging to give it up, will also be taken out of their misery. Revelation 6:15-17. "And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:[the 2nd Coming of Christ the Lord] For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?. This is God's strange act. Isaiah 28:21 "For the LORD shall rise up . . . he shall be wroth . . . that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act". This is out of character with God's great love for us. John 3:16-17, James 1:12-15; But Also, not allowing the things that have hurt his children to continue, thus in complete harmony with His Justice. Job 37:23 "Touching the Almighty, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict"; Psalm 89:14 "Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face."

If God can see the enemies of His people planning on harassing, torturing, killing, robbing, burning, His children, would you not think it strange for God not to warn them? This was the case for 1000 years! The writers clearly state that God is telling them this because HE WANTS THEM TO be able to make a choice as to staying in God's care, or taking themselves out of his care by doing terrible things themselves that God cannot condone. God spells out the choice in Deut. 10:12-14 "And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good? Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD'S thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is." Deut. 11:12-32 (note verse 16): "Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them."

God's Consistency Revealed Throughout the Thousand Years of the Theocracy

Isa. 1:16-18 Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool; Ezk. 18:30-32 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye". Ezk. 11:16, 19-20

"Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come. And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God"; Psalms 11:4; 34:15 "The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men; The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry." Prov. 15:3 "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good;" Jer. 31:3 "The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

Daniel Praying for Mercy & Forgiveness for himself and his people—Dan. 9:16-

22 O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us. Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name. And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God; Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding;". Hosea 14:1-9 O Israel, return unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: . . . I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him. I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon. They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon. Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard him, and observed him: I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found. Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the LORD are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein;

God is not asking us to sacrifice hundreds of animals--Micah 6:2-8 "Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? 8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Malachi 2:7&10 "For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts. 10. Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?"

Malachi 4:2"But . . . you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; . . ."