

If You Have Seen Me, you have seen the Father! John 14:9

Jesus' Tenderness, Compassion & Humility

(1) Jesus takes time with the children—He “takes them in his arms” - He doesn't pat them on the head with a quick token prayer. He cares about them. God is just like Jesus.

(4) Jesus is deeply grieved by the family's apparent loss and heart ache. He really feels their pain and anguish. He is not removed from our suffering. Neither is God!

(7) Jesus humbles Himself and washes the dirt, slime and refuse off the feet of the disciples as they have walked through the dirty city streets. The One in Ezekiel Chp 1 is the same who serves us. Therefore God is humble.

(10) Jesus is deeply motivated by compassion - gut level concern - to teach the people, to feed them and to heal them. Jesus cares deeply. Therefore so does God!

(13) Jesus is capable of great emotions! Here He is fully of Joy as He delights in the Wisdom of the Father! Therefore God is capable of great Joy!

(16) Jesus is stirred by deep compassion and His heart goes out to this woman with no husband whose only son has died. He cares deeply for her.

(19) Jesus is a relational being. It is not just about Him pursuing us. He also makes opportunities for us to pursue Him. He wants us to compel Him, by desire and longing, to stay with us! God wants us to want Him!

Jesus' Patience, Approachability & Protection

(2) The disciples we seriously engaged in selfish ambition and full blown arguments and contention regarding their position. The seriousness of this sin shows the depth of Jesus patience and He directs them towards servant-hood and concern for others. Jesus doesn't get upset nor attack them for this sin, but works with them and grows them patiently. Therefore God deals patiently with us in our sin & immaturity.

(5) Jesus' approachability is clearly seen here. He is not like a “holiness” preacher or powerful Christian/Catholic leader that you might be afraid to approach—especially with a question about your own eternal rewards. The fact that James & John think they can get the highest possible reward in this age or the next shows how approachable Jesus was. They felt free to ask Him anything.

(8) The fact that the outcasts of society—the prostitutes and the hated Tax Collectors and the common “sinners” - would come to Jesus shows how open and receiving He was. People wanted to be around Jesus. He did not sense that Jesus was going to accuse or attack them. Even in their everyday sins and imperfections they sensed His enjoyment of them and acceptance even as He challenged them to repent and grow! Therefore God is approachable.

(11) Once again Jesus is seen to be so approachable so that even the little children want to be around Him. By contrast you never get the sense that the children want to be around the Pharisees. The children like to be around Jesus—and that tells us a lot about Him! Children don't like mean people full of accusation and fault finding.

(14) Jesus' protection is clearly seen because the woman was clearly guilty by the Law and death was the penalty. Jesus doesn't follow the letter of the law but protects the woman. Jesus is devising ways to save and protect our lives not looking for reasons to destroy us. However, he doesn't compromise on the fact that sin destroys life—so He tells her to “sin no more.” So God protects us, even when guilty of sin.

(17) Jesus intervenes and puts his seal of approval on Mary's devotion thereby protecting her from Martha's criticism, worries & anxiety about tasks. Therefore God protects us from accusation & criticism.

(20) Jesus approves of Mary's extravagant act of devotion to Him. He intervenes directly telling Judas to “leave her alone” - which blocks his criticism of Mary. Jesus shuts the door on that voice of accusation and criticism. This is His protection for Mary. This is what God is like

Jesus' Fierceness, Clean Anger and Intensity

(3) Jesus' fierceness & clean anger to “cleanse the temple” results in 3 things. 1) The lame and the weak are able to come to Him in the “House of God” and be healed (Matt 21:14) and 2) Worship is restored in the temple and the average pilgrim from outside Jerusalem is protected from getting ripped off by the Money Changers and the sellers of the animals used for sacrifice and 3) This corrupt money making system was attacked and condemned. Therefore God's clean anger results in protection and health.

(6) Jesus' clean anger at the synagogue ruler results in the protection of the little old woman who had been bent over and afflicted for 18 years! It also results in attacking evil theology that puts “traditions” before God's Word and the care of God's people. God is just like Jesus!

(9) Jesus' forceful expulsion of demons from human hosts—a “righteous” or “good” form of violence”- results in the oppressed people getting free. This kind of violence is like a burglar who is attacking a terrified woman who lives all alone. A police officer smashes open a locked door and shoots the criminal and delivers the woman. God is violent against evil.

(12) Jesus' intensity and indignation with the disciples regarding the children results in a change of word view and agenda. Afterwards they didn't try to keep the “unimportant” or weak people away from Jesus. Jesus likes the smallest and weakest and most non-powerful. God enjoys the smallest.

(15) Jesus' aggressive rebuke to Peter results in stemming Peter's concern for his own vision of life, success & power. Peter gets his focus back on Jesus' agenda to redeem the entire human race. Peter's own agenda is being used by Satan to attack Jesus' mission. God's discipline helps us focus

(18) Jesus discipline and rebuke to the disciples results in the protection of the Samaritians from either 1) real fire falling like in Elijah's day or 2) the negative attitudes from the “well meaning” disciples. Jesus rebuke also refocuses the disciples that His ultimate goal (and therefore their ultimate goal) is to do everything in His power and their power to save and bless people rather than destroy them.

(21) Jesus clean anger at the Pharisee's hardness of heart bring light and clarity to what truly angers God because it damages/destroys human beings: Hard Hearted adherence to man made traditions that oppose 1) the Word of God and 2) deep care for the welfare of human beings. God like's people and wants them to escape the destructions of sin and be united to Him for eternal existence with Him! He doesn't want any lost!

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This is eternal life, that they may KNOW you... John 17:3

Focus: What you behold you become ... 2 Cor 3:18