

Questions About How a Loving God Can Also Be a God of Judgment

By Pastor Ed Anderson

How Can a Loving God Also Be a God of Judgment?

Answer:

God's judgment and His love are not opposites—they are two sides of the same divine nature. True love must confront evil, because to ignore sin would be to allow suffering, injustice, and rebellion to destroy His creation. A God who loves perfectly must also judge perfectly.

Think of it this way: if God *didn't* judge evil, He would not be loving—He would be indifferent. Love that never defends what is right or protects the innocent is not love at all.

When Scripture says, "*The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion. Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished*" (**Numbers 14:18**), it reveals the perfect balance of His character—He patiently offers mercy, but He will not allow evil to rule forever.

Psalms 85:10 paints a beautiful picture of this harmony: "*Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed.*" In Jesus, these divine qualities meet perfectly. On the cross, love and justice embraced—sin was condemned, and sinners were forgiven.

So God's judgment is not the *opposite* of His love; it is the *proof* of it. His justice defends His love, ensuring that good triumphs and that every wrong is ultimately made right.