

#2: The Governmental Administration of the Righteous, Holy, Faithful, and Loving God

(Crystallization-Study of Deuteronomy) 2020/3/2-8

Overview: The Bible reveals the government of God—His divine governmental administration of the entire universe. God uses fiery ordeals to deal with the believers in the judgment of His governmental administration. This judgment begins from His own house. We should be humbled, we need to realize that we are under God's government, to respect God's government, and to learn to acknowledge God's government. As God is governing us, He supplies us with whatever we need (I). The book of Deuteronomy speaks regarding the governmental administration of God. The wise God is a perfecting Father who loves His children and deals with them governmentally. He disciplines us for the purpose of perfecting us (II). God's throne is established with righteousness as the foundation. Where God's righteousness is, there His kingdom is also. As God's people living under His government, we must live a righteous life. In spite of our failure in loving God and fearing Him and in spite of our unfaithfulness, God will be successful (III).

I . The Bible reveals the government of God—His divine governmental administration of the entire universe:

Isa. 9:6 For a child is born to us, A son is given to us; And the government is upon His shoulder;

A. The government of God is the administrative center of the kingdom of God.

B. In His divine government God is the King, the Lawmaker, and the Judge; He is the executive branch, the legislative branch, and the judicial branch of His government.

C. God's government is seen especially in His dealings with His chosen people: **1.** As believers in Christ, we have been born of God to be children of God, but we are still in the old creation. **2.** For this reason we need God's governmental dealings. **1 Pet. 1:17** And if you call as Father the One who without respect of persons judges according to each one's work, pass the time of your sojourning in fear,

D. God governs by judging; the judgment of God is for the carrying out of His government: **1.** Through various kinds of judgments, the Lord God will clear up the entire universe and purify it so that He may have new heavens and a new earth for a new universe filled with His righteousness for His delight. **2.** God judges everything that does not match His government; therefore, in this age we, the children of God, are under the daily judgment of God. **3.** God uses fiery ordeals to deal with the believers in the judgment of His governmental administration, which begins from His own house. Mon

E. When the Lord Jesus was on earth, He recognized the government of God, lived a human life that was absolutely under the government of God, and committed everything related to Him to God's government: **1 Pet. 2:21** ...because Christ also suffered on your behalf, leaving you a model so that you may follow in His steps; **23** Who being reviled did not revile in return; suffering, He did not threaten but kept committing all to Him who judges righteously; **1.** The Lord kept committing all the insults and injuries that He suffered to the One who judges righteously in His government, the righteous God, to whom He submitted Himself. **2.** He put His trust in this righteous One, recognizing His government.

F. As believers in Christ, we need to realize that we are under God's government, to respect God's government, and to

learn to acknowledge God's government: **1.** As God is governing us, He supplies us with whatever we need; God grants us His provision so that we may cooperate with His government. **2 Pet. 1:3** Seeing that His divine power has granted to us all things which relate to life and godliness, through the full knowledge of Him... Tue

2. We should be humbled under the mighty hand of God, which carries out the government of God: **1 Pet. 5:6** Therefore be humbled under the mighty hand of God that He may exalt you in due time, **a.** In verse 6 "the mighty hand of God" refers to God's administrating hand seen especially in His judgment. **b.** To be humbled under God's mighty hand is to be made humble by God; however, we must cooperate with God's operation and be willing to be made humble, lowly, under His mighty hand.

II . The book of Deuteronomy speaks regarding the governmental administration of God:

A. The expression governmental administration is not found in Deuteronomy, but if we read this book thoroughly, we will see that it is a book of God's government, even His governmental administration.

B. God's dealing with His people was an exercise of His governmental administration: **1.** The wise God is a perfecting Father who loves His children and deals with them governmentally; He disciplines us for the purpose of perfecting us. **Heb. 12:6** For whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives. **2.** The children of Israel were disciplined for their mistakes. **3.** Even Moses was disciplined by God for his mistake in 20:2-13: **a.** Moses made a serious mistake, which God could not tolerate, because it touched His administration. **b.** God's administration is righteous, and even though He loved Moses, He could not for this reason fail to exercise His administration. **c.** Moses offended God, and as a result, he lost his right to enter into the good land: **1** Jehovah allowed Moses to view the land, but He did not permit him to go in. **2** Rather, "Moses the servant of Jehovah died there in the land of Moab according to the word of Jehovah"—v. 5. **3** Moses served God faithfully for forty years, but because his mistake involved God's governmental administration, he lost the right to enter into the good land. **d.** Moses' being refused in the matter of entering and possessing the good land shows God's righteous governmental administration; this was an instance of God's governmental administration, of God's governmental dealing: **1** The way God dealt with Moses in not allowing him to enter into the good land caused the children of Israel to have more fear of God's righteous dealing. **2** The punishment Moses suffered was a perfecting to the children of Israel; they should have learned from this how fearful the righteous God is in His governmental dealings. Wed

III . The government of God is the governmental administration of the righteous, holy, faithful, and loving God:

A. God is righteous, and His government is established upon righteousness: **1.** God's government requires righteousness; righteousness is a matter of God's government. **1 Pet. 2:24** Who Himself bore up our sins in His body on the tree, in order that we, having died to sins, might live to righteousness; by whose bruise you were healed. **2.** Righteousness is related to God's outward acts, ways, actions, and activities; everything God does is righteous. **3.** The righteousness of God is what God is in His actions with

respect to justice and righteousness. **4.** Righteousness is related to the kingdom of God: **a.** God's throne is established with righteousness as the foundation. **b.** Where God's righteousness is, there His kingdom is also. **5.** In the death of Christ we have died to sins so that we might live to righteousness: **a.** As God's people living under His government, we must live a righteous life. **1 John 2:29** If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness also has been begotten of Him. **b.** The expression "live to righteousness" (1 Pet. 2:24) is related to the fulfilling of God's governmental requirements: **(1)** We were saved so that we might live rightly under the government of God, that is, in a way that matches the righteous requirements of His government. **(2)** In Christ's death we have been separated from sins, and in His resurrection we have been enlivened so that in our Christian life we might live spontaneously to righteousness under the government of God. **6.** Because God's government requires righteousness, **2 Peter 3:13** says, "According to His promise we are expecting new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells": **a.** This means that everything will be in order, headed up, and regulated. **b.** Everything will be governed, controlled, and under the proper rule, for the throne of God, the kingdom, the divine administration, will be there, and the result will be peace and joy. **Thu**

B. God is holy; holiness is one of the main attributes of God: **1.** "The four living creatures...have no rest day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God the Almighty, who was and who is and who is coming" (Rev. 4:8):

a. The emphasis in Revelation 4:8 is that the Triune God is holy and is triply holy, referring to the quality of God's nature—God's being; what He is, is holy. **b.** To partake of God's holiness is to partake of the quality of His nature, of what He is. **Heb. 12:10** ...but He, for what is profitable that we might partake of His holiness. **2.** "Our God is also a consuming fire": **a.** God is a consuming fire in His holiness and severity. **Deut. 9:3** Know therefore today that Jehovah your God is the One crossing over before you as a consuming fire; **b.** Whatever does not correspond to His holy nature, He, as the consuming fire, will consume; thus, He is severe, expressing His holiness in severity.

C. God is faithful: **1.** God's word is faithful; whatever proceeds out of the mouth of God will be fulfilled. **2.** The faithful God who has called us will also sanctify us wholly and preserve our whole being complete. **3.** Divine faithfulness is a sweet attribute of God. **4.** In Deuteronomy 7:9-15 Moses wanted the people to realize that Jehovah their God is the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness with those who love Him and keep His commandments. **Deut. 7:9** Know therefore that it is Jehovah your God who is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and lovingkindness to the thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments. **Fi**

D. God is love: **Deut. 7:7** ...that Jehovah has set His affection on you and has chosen you... **Jer. 31:3** Jehovah appeared to me from afar, saying, Indeed I have loved you with an eternal love, Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness. **1.** Love is the nature of God's essence; thus, love is an essential attribute of God. **2.** Deuteronomy speaks of God as a God of love: **a.** As a God of righteousness, God is strict and narrow; as a God of love, He is broad and all-embracing. **b.** God is a loving God, but His love is a perfecting love, not a

spoiling love; God loves us and also disciplines us, for He has His governmental administration. **3.** As a whole, Deuteronomy ultimately shows us that the love of God consummately works for His people so that they may enjoy His full blessing according to His will and foreknowledge: **a.** In spite of our failure in loving God and fearing Him and in spite of our unfaithfulness, God will be successful. **b.** No matter what the condition of His people may be, God will be faithful to the end, and eventually, He will accomplish His intention so that we may enjoy His full blessing. **1 Cor. 1:7-8** So that you do not lack in any gift, eagerly awaiting the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ,

E. The book of Deuteronomy is very particular in its revelation of what God is: **1.** All the rehearsed statutes and judgments, with the new developments, speak forth in detail concerning the God of Israel. **2.** The God manifested in Deuteronomy is not only righteous, holy, faithful, loving, and gracious but also very fine, tender, considerate, and sympathetic; this is our God. **Sat**

Crucial Point(1): God starts judgement from God's house and eventually will cleanse whole universe

OL1: The government of God is the administrative center of the kingdom of God. **OL2:** God's government is seen especially in His dealings with His chosen people. As believers in Christ, we have been born of God to be children of God, but we are still in the old creation.

OL3: God judges everything that does not match His government; therefore, in this age we, the children of God, are under the daily judgment of God.

What is the purpose of God's governing judgment? God judges in order to clear up His universe. The universe was created by God for a positive purpose, but Satan came in to defile it. Now God is cleansing the universe through judgment. He is doing a thorough work of cleaning the entire universe. Eventually, the universe will be new. Do you know the significance of the new heavens and the new earth mentioned in 2 Peter 3? The significance is that it indicates the newness of God's universe.

God will not live or dwell in a place that is unclean. Thus, God is cleansing, purifying, the universe. First He purifies us, His household. We are now the center of His cleaning work. Do you not sometimes say to yourself, "Why is it that the more I love the Lord Jesus, the more difficulties I have? My relatives are flourishing; they are doing very well. But my situation seems to get worse and worse." Some saints have problems with their health; others are disappointed with their children. The reason we have difficulties is that God's judgment begins from His own household. You and I are under God's judgment.

Application to young working saints/graduate students

1 Pet. 4:17 For it is time for the judgment to begin from the house of God; and if first from us, what will be the end of those who disobey the gospel of God? **FN** [the judgment to begin from the house of God] : From this house, as His own house, God begins His governmental administration by God's disciplinary judgment over His own children, that He may have strong ground to judge, in His universal kingdom, those who are disobedient to His gospel and rebellious toward His government.

You as a young working saint, or graduate student need

to understand that for God to establish His kingdom, He starts judging according to His righteousness from God's house. Thus you would notice that right after your salvation there blowing nice warm south wind to you but later you realize the opposite cold north wind starts blowing toward you. This is a training in God's love and righteousness for you to live out Christ as the righteous life as you go on. So never lose heart in your sufferings.

[II Cor. 4:16](#) Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.[17](#) For our momentary lightness of affliction works out for us, more and more surpassingly, an eternal weight of glory,

Be careful not to lose heart when you only see the opposite cold north wind. Such environment of suffering can be your benefit. The momentary lightness of affliction gives eternal weight of glory. What a bargain deal!

Because of the spread of Coronavirus in Wuhan, China, 2239 precious lives were lost (as of 12:01 of Feb. 21st, 2020) and life of Chinese people and business activities are being greatly damaged. Also there is no one who come to Japan from China for sightseeing, and Japanese sites everywhere and bus companies are suffering the damages. Under such situation, do not lose heart by only seeing the difficult situation. Rather, after hearing those news of the spread of Coronavirus, exercise your spirit and pray the following matters: **(1)**Please pray for the people in China, especially those in Wuhan, Hubei province that the Coronavirus would not spread anymore and also the gospel would spread.**(2)**Please pray the spread of virus in Japan and the gospel would reach the unbelieving Japanese. **(3)**Please pray that the unrighteousness which is against God's righteousness within you would be thoroughly exposed and dealt with through confession of the sins and your inner man would be renewed and not remaining the miserable situation that there is no renewing even after passing through the affliction.**(4)**Please pray for the gospel and go out to preach the gospel with brothers and sisters.

Prayer : "Oh, Lord Jesus, I pray for the people in China, especially the city of Wuhan concerning the spread of Coronavirus. Protect brothers and sisters and people in Wuhan from the infection of Coronavirus. May the white horse of gospel run even faster through local churches in whole China and Japan. And under this difficult environment, expose my unrighteousness. Don't let me stay in the old state. Renew my inner man day by day! In the busy business life, let me be a man of prayer, a man who preach the gospel.

Crucial Point(2):[God's dealing in His administration is to convert you from serving in culture to serving to "bear fruits"](#)

OL1: God's dealing with His people was an exercise of His governmental administration. **OL2:** We were saved so that we might live rightly under the government of God, that is, in a way that matches the righteous requirements of His government. **OL3:** In Christ's death we have been separated from sins, and in His resurrection we have been enlivened so that in our Christian life we might live spontaneously to righteousness under the government of God.

When we call on the name of the Lord and have

fellowship with Him, the life-giving Spirit operates within us. Spontaneously we experience the subjective working of the cross to make a separation between us and sins so that we automatically live to righteousness.

Now we need to ask why Peter uses the expression "live to righteousness" [[1 Pet. 2:24](#)]. This is related to the fulfilling of God's governmental requirements. Actually, God's government requires just one thing—righteousness. This is the reason [2 Peter 3:13](#) says, "But according to His promise we are expecting new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells." In [1 Peter 2:23](#) we see that the Lord Jesus continually committed all to the One who judges righteously. Then in verse 24 Peter indicates that we should live to righteousness. Peter's concept here is governmental; righteousness is a matter of God's government. We have been saved by our Savior to live a life that matches the righteous requirements of God's government.

[Psalm 89:14](#) says that righteousness is the foundation of God's throne. Therefore, as God's people living under His government, we must have a righteous life. ...But because in ourselves we are not able to live this kind of life, the Savior saves us to live a life of righteousness, a life that fulfills the righteous requirements of God's government.

It is important for us to realize that Christ our Savior has carried up all our sins onto the tree and died there for us. Now His death separates us from sins and enliven us so that we may live to righteousness. Spontaneously, we are under God's government and have no problem with His government because we live to righteousness.

[Application to serving ones](#)

As a serving one, you must be a person who lives to righteousness under the government of God. Because God's righteousness is different from the Japanese cultural righteousness, so you must not serve according to the Japanese culture.

As an example, some people try to defend themselves saying that they are not doing wrong. However, because there is a goal in the service, whether that service is reaching the goal or not will be a crucial point that we should maintain. Any serving one who insists he is not wrong is overly self-conscious and so is losing the sight of the goal and the essence of service. Lord Jesus said, "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes it away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it that it may bear more fruit ([John 15:2](#))." The point here is to "bear fruit." He did not talk about any detail methodologies. In service, bearing fruit is important, but "Who is wrong" or "I am not wrong" are not important. In God's dealing in His administration, He deals with you to convert you from being nervous about these detail things to "living in the Lord more" and "bearing more fruits." Bearing fruits is to accomplish the original goal, so it is the matter in the life and also is to practice the righteousness.

A purpose of the service is to "bear more fruits", and in order to do it, it is important to "live in the Lord more." Therefore, when you consider about any service in the church, you should not first discuss its details, but you need

to focus every discussion on "living in the Lord more and bearing fruits more." (You can discuss later about the detail shortly.) "Who is being praised" and "I am not praised" are not issues. You should never bring competitive attitude to the church service. Competitive attitude is the work of flesh.

In order to "live in the Lord more and bear more fruits", it is important (1) to let the word of the Lord dwell in you, (2) to love each other, (3) to ask God anything necessary to bear fruit and to have the fruit remain (This command shows that God is focusing on bearing fruits), and (4) to confess your own sins. May the Lord bless you so that you can understand and accept the God's dealing in His administration to become a person who can bear more fruits. Please sing Hymn #947.

1. God's Kingdom today is a real exercise, But when Christ comes to reign it will be a great prize; It is wisdom divine that we now may be trained that His plan be fulfilled and His justice maintained.

Prayer: "Oh, Lord Jesus. The purpose of the service is to bear more fruits. Insisting that I am not wrong or serving with competitive attitude cannot be blessed. I beseech to the Lord to let the words of the Lord dwell in me richly and to bear fruits in love together with the other brothers and sisters. To bear more fruits, please remove my culture and my concept that can be a partition."

Crucial Point(3): Knowing that God is the loving and righteous one and also knowing that ourselves are full of unrighteousness. Accept God's governmental administration and learn how to be righteous.

OL1: As a God of righteousness, God is strict and narrow; as a God of love, He is broad and all-embracing. OL2: God is a loving God, but His love is a perfecting love, not a spoiling love; God loves us and also disciplines us, for He has His governmental administration. OL3: The God manifested in Deuteronomy is not only righteous, holy, faithful, loving, and gracious but also very fine, tender, considerate, and sympathetic; this is our God.

As a God of love, He is all-embracing, but as a God of righteousness, He is very strict and narrow.... In His righteousness, He often says "No" when we want to do a certain thing.

Some saints, even in the Lord's recovery, are too free and do not fear God. Once we have touched God's dealing hand, we will fear Him. He deals with us righteously that we may be perfected to be righteous also. All those who intend to enter into the good land and to inherit, possess, and enjoy the good land must learn how to be righteous in every way in their daily living.

With a view of the future, Deuteronomy expects that, on the one hand, man may know the love and government of God and that, on the other hand, man may know his real condition, so that he will not trust himself. Hence, the intention of the book of Deuteronomy is that we would know God and also know ourselves. We need to know God. In particular, we need to know that God is loving and that He is righteous in dealing with us. We also need to know that we ourselves are a failure. If we know this, we will no longer trust ourselves but put our trust in God, the One who is faithful.

Ultimately this book shows us that the love of God consummately works for His people that they may enjoy His full blessing according to His will and foreknowledge. In spite of our failure in loving God and fearing Him and in spite of our unfaithfulness, God will be successful. No matter what the

situation of His people may be, God will be faithful to the end, and eventually He will accomplish His intention that we enjoy His full blessing.

Application for the new ones & young people & college students

New ones and young students must recognize the governance based on God's righteousness and God's love and learn how to be righteous in every way in the daily living. Because the kingdom of God is based on righteousness. God cannot bless you if you don't live a righteous life.

For example, the following cases are unrighteous: (1) Telling lies that are not based on facts, or expressing things overly, saying things with a big gap from the facts. (2) Receiving extra change without refunding honestly and be happy with it. (3) Though agree with something, but don't do it later or do it exactly. (4) Even though people helped but not being grateful and being angry instead. (5) Got help from others but give glory to yourself saying you did it. (6) Using the parking lot of the convenience store without purchasing in the store. (7) People are obviously being treated unjustly, but pretending not to see it because it has nothing to do with me. (8) Fooling people with the story to beautify yourself or hide your mistakes so that the whole picture is invisible to others. (9) Against parents, teachers or bosses. (10) Make decisions based on personal preferences and do not place things or people in the right positions. (11) Not allocating rewards worthy of others. (12) Just follow the past precedents and habits (think it's easier and less likely to be blamed.) and don't accept the right changes to meet urgent needs. (13) Behaves politically and is not honest with God and man. (14) Not pure, hides ugly motives apart from words. (15) Just care about the appearance, and lose sight of the essence of things. (16) Be emotional, lose sight of objectivity, justify yourself, and blame others. (17) Become emotional and fall into self-pity. (18) Even though having no acknowledge or experience, be proud and do not accept the advice of experienced people. (19) Being proud and criticize others but do not solve the problem. (20) You are coming to consult, but you are proud and stubborn, so you may continue to insist on your opinion.

Because God is light, it exposes all of this darkness and unrighteousness. You can be forgiven and cleansed through confession of sins and make Christ your righteous life. Train yourself to live a righteous life.

God is also faithful. Learn to never trust yourself but trust in a faithful God about your future prospects. Then God will be with you and you will be blessed. Never be unbelieving and don't worry. However, moving forward step by step with the Lord and the church does not mean that you do nothing. In your fellowship with the Lord and the brothers and sisters, embrace training in the love and righteousness of God and challenge yourself positively for what you need to go to school, get a job, get a qualification, or get married. Your prospect in the Lord is shining.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, in the presence of the righteous God, I acknowledge that I am full of unrighteousness. Because it is dark inside, we can't even recognize unrighteousness as unrighteousness. Lord, I repent and confess my sins. I accept your dealing. Lord, enlighten and deal with things that are not righteous in you and in my living. May I live Christ and live a righteous life. Amen!"