**DOES GOD DESTROY?**

**By**

**Pastor Owen E. Jack**

Love, mercy and justice are aspects of God’s character. When God rebukes, chastens or destroys it is done out of love. All of God’s actions are in full harmony with his righteous character.

God allows people to experience his justice by:

* Letting them suffer the consequences of their own wrong actions.
* By withdrawing His presence.
* By destroying them Himself.

Examples of Times when God Destroyed People Himself

1. God destroyed all the wicked with a flood who refused to repent and go into the ark He provided for their safety. Genesis 6:5-7, 17; 7:10, 14, 17-23.
2. God destroyed Sodom because of the wickedness of the people. Genesis19:24; Jude 7;

 2 Peter 2:6.

1. God destroyed all the first born of the Egyptians. Exodus 12:29 – 31.
2. God destroyed Pharoah’s Army. Exodus 14: 21, 25-31.
3. God destroyed those who engaged in rebellion against Moses, His appointed leader. Numbers 16:30-35, 44-49.
4. The Lord used fiery serpents to destroy those who showed disrespect for Him and His leader, Moses. Numbers 21: 5, 6.
5. God destroyed Uzzah for touching the Ark. 2 Samuel 6: 6, 7.
6. God destroyed Nadab and Abihu for offering strange fire in the temple. Numbers 3:4; Leviticus 10:1, 2.
7. God used a bear to eat up the boys who teased His servant Elisha. 2 Kings 2: 23, 24; 1 Kings 18:40.
8. God destroyed Ananias and Sapphira for lying to the Holy Ghost. Acts 5: 1-10.
9. God used His angel to destroy Herod for accepting the praise that was due only to Him. Acts 12: 21-23.
10. God commanded Israel to destroy wicked nations around them. Joshua 8: 1, 2, 19, 22, 23 29; 6: 2, 21, 24.

Passages about God’s Promise to Destroy People in the Future

* God will destroy Satan. Eze. 28: 18, 19; Rev. 20: 9, 10.
* God will destroy Satan and his angels. Matt. 25: 41; Mal. 4:1
* God will destroy the earth and the wicked with it. 2 Peter 9 – 11; Rev. 20: 12 – 15.
* God will destroy those who destroy the body temple. 1 Cor. 3: 16, 17.

The doctrine that God does not destroy is out of the doctrines of demons because of several reasons:

1. If God does not destroy them, God and the Bible are not true.
2. If God does not destroy, sin and sinners will continue to exist.
3. Satan and his demons will be permitted to live and continue their sinful practices throughout eternity.
4. Sin and sinners will never be eradicated from God’s universe.
5. The last enemy – death will not be destroyed (1 Cor. 15:26).

False doctrines destroy the faith of some. It prevents people from building on the foundation of truth and it limits the individual Christian experience and usefulness.