



Is God Cruel?

Luke 3:10-14, 19: "What should we do then?" the crowd asked.¹¹ John answered, 'Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.'¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?"¹³ "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them.¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay. "But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, ²⁰ Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison."

Step 1- People are a Priority
Step 2- We need a Righteous Routine
Step 3- The Key is the Tree

What do all healthy relationships have in common?

Boundaries

Elohim in Genesis 1:1- 2:3
YHWH or Yahweh in Genesis 2:4-25

Elohim is POWER
Elohim crates, separates, and declares good or evil
God has the most power, but God is NOT power

"Human beings create purpose that aligns with their values and passion to find meaning. It's not some scroll from heaven. It's not some treasure chest to be found. Nor is it a mandate from "god. YouTube comment

Exodus 20:2,3: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.
³"You shall have no other gods(Elohim) before me."

Exodus 22:8: "But if the thief is not found, the owner of the house must appear before the judges(Elohim)."

Elohim is generic for power

YHWH- Compassion, Kindness, Love, Grace

Genesis 3:1: "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord(YHWH) God(Elohim) had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God(Elohim/Power) really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

Genesis 3:8-10: "Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the Lord God called to the man, 'Where are you?' ¹⁰He answered, 'heard you in the garden, and I was afraid..."

Secure attachment. Secure people assume they are worthy of love, and others can be trusted to give it to them. This belief becomes an unconscious template that trickles into all their relationships, relationships, leading them to give others the benefit of the doubt, open up, ask for what they need, support others, assume others like them, and achieve intimacy.

Anxious attachment. People who are anxiously attached assume others will abandon them. To keep themselves from being abandoned, they act clingily, are overly self-sacrificing to accommodate others, or plunge into intimacy too rapidly.

Avoidant attachment. Avoidantly attached people are similarly afraid others will abandon them. But instead of clinging to avoid this outcome, they keep others at a distance. Intimacy signals, to them, that they could be hurt, so they push others away, eschew vulnerability, and leave relationships prematurely.

Place a boundary around your pursuit of power

Place a boundary around your pursuit of love

Song of Solomon 8:4: "...do not awaken love before its time."