

Psalm 103:6-14

## 4 Goals Of Faithful Fathering



# Context/Background

- Author: King David (written approx. 1,000 BC)
- Audience: Jewish worshippers
- Themes: Praising God for His goodness, remembering God's blessings and giving thanks, revelation that God is like a loving Father
- Setting: David calls upon every fiber of his being to bless, thank, and praise God for Who He is and what He does

# Determining To Have A Thirst For Righteousness

- (vv. 6-7) David was a father and knew its challenges
- God is personal, relational, and knowable
- The Lord is like a loving Father and is very concerned about right and wrong
- Genuine love tells the truth; has elements of discipline and honesty

- Prov. 13:24, “He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who love him disciplines him promptly.”
- Eph. 6:4, “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”



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# Displaying A Slowness To Anger

- (vv. 8-9) David showed God is merciful, gracious, and slow to anger
- “Anger” – “redness of face, hot breath coming from nose”
- Anger in and of itself isn’t sinful; the expression of it often is (“anger” and “danger”)
- God’s anger isn’t like our anger
- “Strive” – “rebuke, punish, contend with”

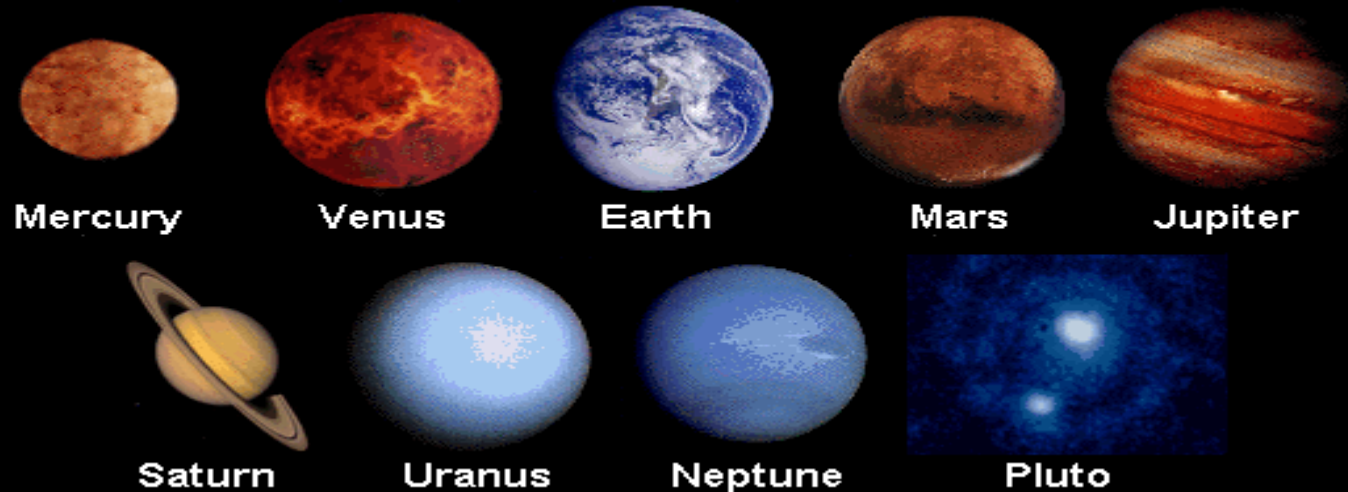
- Prov. 15:17, “Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a fatted calf with hatred.”
- Eph. 4:26-27, “Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil.”



# Deciding To Be Quick To Forgive

- (vv. 10-12) The Lord disciplines His children (like any good Father) but He doesn't deal with us completely now as our sins deserve (He is merciful and quick to forgive)
- God's forgiveness is complete; true east and true west never meet
- Once we confess our sins, they are gone forever: God doesn't keep bringing them back up

- Hebrews 8:12, “For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and lawless deeds I will remember no more.”
- Rom. 8:1, “There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus,…”



# Developing Strong Relationships With Jesus And Others

- (vv. 13-14) David affirmed God is like a loving Father who cares for His children
- “pities” – “sympathize with, tenderly understand”
- God knows us completely (hairs on head are numbered) and He wants us to know Him
- Just like God knows us individually, we can know others well and fellowship with them

- Prov. 27:23, “Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, and attend to your herds;...”
- Col. 3:21, “Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.”

