

# Saint Michael and All Angels Parish Church, Bramcote



**Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Bible Readings:** [Psalm 126; 2 Kings 21:1-18; 1 Timothy 1:1-17](#)  
(Each reading may be viewed at [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com))

**Reflection:** ⑤

Today, we very rarely think of punishment from God, preferring the more palatable traits of the Almighty. But as our passages today show, God does get angry. Yes, he is slow to anger giving humanity every opportunity to change, but eventually he does bring punishment. As Christians, we love God for he loves us and part of that love is respecting him by acknowledging who he is and what is expected of us.

In Exodus, we see that the Israelites were in Egypt for 500 years to give the Canaanite tribes time to change their ways; to stop child sacrifice to their false gods El and Baal and other despicable acts. They continued and so were punished, for when the Hebrews came to the Promised Land, God instructed them to take the land by force, removing the people who were there. In 2 Kings 21 we are told that in the time of King Manasseh the kingdom of Judea carried out worse acts than the Canaanite tribes. They worshiped Baal and other false gods, desecrating the temple in Jerusalem, sacrificing children on altars constructed and dedicated to these false images of gods. Again, God did not punish the tribes of Judah immediately but used the Babylonians to destroy the temple and take the Hebrews captive. It then took 60 years, which gave them time to reflect on their actions against the Almighty, before they could return to Israel. In 1 Timothy 1:1-17 we see that the Law was given not for the righteous, but for the ungodly so that they would have no excuse for their behaviour.

Jesus shows his immense patience by delaying his return, for at that time the books will be closed, giving as many as possible the opportunity to say sorry and turn to new life in him both now and for eternity.

**Prayer:**

Almighty God and Father we thank you that you are the same yesterday today and tomorrow help us to live our lives in a way that reflects your glory. Let us love you with all our hearts, strength and soul and love our neighbour as are self. Amen

"Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5.7