

"Visiting The Iniquity Of The Fathers On The Children..."

Introduction:

- A. This evening we engage in a unique study that will hopefully help us all to see things from God's perspective a little more clearly.
- B. *Exodus 20:4-6* contains a very unusual phrase.
- C. What did God mean?

I. "Visiting the iniquity..."

- A. Would you make this covenant with God?
- B. This is not the only time we find this kind of language (*Exodus 34:5-7*).
- C. We see the fulfillment of this covenant over and over and over again throughout the Old Testament.

II. Real-life examples of the covenant's fulfillment

- A. *Numbers 14:18,33* -- who was made to suffer in the wilderness?
- B. *Lamentations 5:7*
- C. *2 Kings 24:3-4* -- King Manasseh's sin
- D. *Psalms 79:8* -- have you ever prayed like that?
- E. *Isaiah 65:6-7* -- language of judgment
- F. *2 Samuel 21:1*
- G. *1 Kings 14-15* -- example of King Jeroboam
- H. We would expect that the fearful lesson would have been learned, but...
 - 1. *1 Kings 16:11-13*
 - 2. *1 Kings 21:17-22,27-29*
 - 3. *2 Kings 10:7,10-11,30*
- I. When God says something, He's going to do it!

III. The point for us

- A. The question is, "Why? Where was the Lord going with all of this?"
- B. *2 Samuel 12:14*
- C. Another example of a father whose son had to die (*Isaiah 53:4-6; 59:1-2*)
- D. Note that a distinct covenant is revealed as being on the horizon (*Jeremiah 31:29-34*)
- E. Still, however, somebody had to pay the price for sin (*Acts 2:37-39*)