HALF BAKED (Deut. 30:19) © 2010 DianaDee Osborne page 1 of 2

LYRICS

www.DiDoReflections.com CCLI pending. dedicated to our Understanding God, 6 May 2010 Album: Amazing Lord 'n' Life

'He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice,

A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He." -- Deuteronomy 32: 4
NKJV

"But God demonstrates His own <u>LOVE</u> toward us, in that **while we were still sinners**, Christ died for us." -- *Romans 5:8 NKJV*

This quiet-to-driving Rock song examines an extremely hard phrase in the scriptures: about God "hardening hearts." The key verse: CHOOSE LIFE (Deuteronomy 30: 19) "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD" in Isaiah 1:18.

God WANTS us to use intelligence! That's why He gifted it to us!

1

Rain falls on all the land -- -- not just "the just."

God's fair to all people -- -- in this we must trust.

It's not blind trust. It's plain logic:

Chapter One of Genesis says plainly

God made us like Him.

When we read that God "hardened hearts",

we can know for sure that we are missing some information.

CHORUS

For God is JUST. For God is LOVE.

For God is Righteous, Holy, and Compassionate!

It grieves God's heart when we harden ours.

But He plainly warned:

CHOOSE LIFE. Deuteronomy 30, Verse 19.

2

Sun falls on all the clay, and all the wax.

The same amount of heat hits both, that's a fact.

The wax softens. Soft wax fills cracks.

When God shines His heat and Light upon wax hearts, they bend to Him.

YET clay hardens when baked in light.

At first half baked clay could bend, but then it's too late.

3

God's Light falls equally on all people.

God wants all people saved -- Second Peter 3:9.

God yearns for all people to come

to the knowledge of God's Truth -- First Timothy 2, verse 4 says.

God yearns for all to be saved from death.

Yet God won't force us to see His Truth - Second Thessalonians 2: 10.

CHORUS

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4

God's Word softens some hearts, learning His love.

Yet that same Word hardens self-centered ones.

God yearns for all to know His Love.

Yet Holy God will not excuse sins that hard hearts won't refuse.

There comes a time when clay's baked hard.

Isaiah 45: 9, God yearned to shape for greatness each clay heart.

CHORUS

For God is JUST. For God is LOVE.

For God is Righteous, Holy, and Compassionate!

It grieves God's heart when we harden ours.

But He plainly warned:

CHOOSE LIFE. Deuteronomy 30, Verse 19.

Song Story

This song was written in a church cemetery. I had to be in a quiet place. I'd been quietly weeping through the night before and that morning over my home church group's Bible study on Joshua 9 through 12. I just had to be alone with God to "work it out." Joshua 11:20 really broke my heart... could it be true that God would first harden the hearts of a huge nation of people and then condemn them for having hardened hearts?

"Surely not!" I tried to reason. That just does not fit with the HUNDREDS of places in the scriptures that say God is loving. It's not so hard to imagine God stopping people from worshiping false gods not only for His own sake but especially because child sacrifice was a major part of many false religions. But God's entire integrity, His character itself, depends on God being love and mercy and FAIR. Not picking and choosing based on some arbitrary whim. Then I remembered:

We are made in God's image (Genesis 1: 26 and 27). If WE have a sense if what is or is not fair, then most assuredly God Who created us has a far more perfect idea of what is fair. Logical CONCLUSION: If something seems unfair, then we must be missing some information. After all, the very first temptation recorded was not about fruit but about a human desire to know as much as God does. (Genesis 3:5).

Cathy G's example in the Bible study gave a more clear picture: God is frequently described as light, and light is hot. When His light shines upon any wax ball, it becomes soft and pliable. It can be shaped into a beautiful figure, or it can repair cracks by spreading to fill them in. The sun does not harden it. Moist clay also can be shaped into a beautiful figure, as described in Isaiah 64:8 and Jeremiah 18. Then the sun does harden it to stay in that shape. If it is first shaped into an ugly lump, it does have hope of being reshaped for just awhile. But eventually heat will harden it into something useless. (Research shows Origen used this example in his ancient On First Principles 3.1.11.)

The example is that <u>we people decide what shape our heart will be in...</u> whether we are open like a wax ball to God's words or whether we stubbornly insist on our way, like a lump of clay. God gives us free will -- He does not steal back the gift He gave to humankind from the days of Genesis. So when the heat of His Light comes into our lives (the same way He does for ALL people), it is our own decision that determines whether God hardens our heart of clay that rejects God, or softens our heart of wax that yearns to follow His ways.

6 May 2010