

Know the Judgment
2 Peter 2:4-10

Main Idea: Jesus is the Judge of all the earth. Every sin will receive its full punishment. Our only hope to escape eternal judgment is humbly repentance and believe in Jesus and His Jesus' sacrifice for our sin to justify us before God.

Two Gospel Big Ideas:

Big Idea #1: God is able to judge those who oppose Him.

Big Lie: I do not have to worry about my eternal future . . . one way or another I will escape God's judgment.

Principle: Just because today is not the Day of Judgment does not mean that there never will be one. Man's ability to ignore the fact of judicial accountability is nearly measureless.

Exhibit A: The fallen angels.

Truth: Judgment is rarely immediate. For a time, it may seem like God overlooks sin without righteously responding to it.

"And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day—" (Jude 1:6 ESV)

Truth: No one is beyond the reach of God in bringing judgment.

Exhibit B: The rebels in Noah's day.

Truth: Man naturally hardens his heart against the truth of God's judgment. We do not WANT to believe it, so we don't believe it.

Truth: God opens a window of time in which to repent and be delivered from judgment. When He closes that window, it is too late.

"But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left." (Matthew 24:36-40 ESV)

Exhibit C: Sodom and Gomorrah

Truth: When we think of the justice of God against sin, let us know that God is moved by its severity. In wrath, God is willing to have mercy.

Truth: God does not keep the truth of his coming judgment secret. He openly tells us over and over and over! Yet inexplicably, man thinks God is not serious.

Truth: It is the most common response to have no fear of judgment prior to the arrival of judgment.

“just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.” (Jude 1:7 ESV)

“Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all—so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed.” (Luke 17:28-30 ESV)

Principle: We must not mistake the patience of God for the carelessness of God.

Big Idea #2: God is able to save those who trust in Him.

“What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,” (Romans 4:1-5 ESV)

Truth: God declares sinners to be righteous on the basis of faith in Him. If we believe in His provision for mercy, then God will treat us as though we are not worthy of His judgment.

“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1 ESV)

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV)

Truth: Though God’s righteous judgment is universal, His offer of mercy is too!

“because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.” (Romans 10:9-10 ESV)