

“The Just Judgment of God” Genesis 18:16-33

THE LORD REVEALED HIS COMING JUDGMENT. v.16-19

→ Verse 17: “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?”

1. The LORD revealed His coming judgment to Abraham. v.16-17

2. The LORD revealed His coming judgment in contrast to His blessing on Abraham’s descendants. v.18

- God promised a PEOPLE (Israel) & a PLACE (land of Canaan) → all the nations blessed through him.
- But judgment would come upon those who are not God’s people... Sodom.

3. The LORD revealed His coming judgment as a means to teach and warn His people. v.19

- I have “chosen” him.... = ‘known’ or ‘loved’. Ref. Ephesians 1:4

THE SIN OF SODOM. v.20-21

1. The LORD heard the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah. v.20 Ref. Gen. 4:10; James 5:4; Ps 34:16-17

2. The sin of Sodom was especially grievous. They were guilty of all kinds of sin:

- **Lying and adultery. Jer. 23:14:** But in the prophets of Jerusalem I have seen a horrible thing: they commit adultery and walk in lies; they strengthen the hands of evildoers, so that no one turns from his evil; all of them have become like Sodom to me, and its inhabitants like Gomorrah.
- **Pride, materialism, and neglecting the poor. Ezek. 16:49:** Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy.
-Gen. 13:10: the area was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD & like the land of Egypt
- **Homosexuality and every kind of depravity and injustice. Gen. 19:5,8; Rom 1:18f. Isaiah 1:9-10**
-**Jude 7:** ...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.

3. The LORD will not leave sin and injustice unpunished. v.21

- ‘I will go down to see...’ (anthropomorphic description of God). Ref. Gen. 3:11-13; 4:9-10; 11:5
-Gen. 4:10: (God to Cain) What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground.
-James 5:4: Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.
-Psalm 34:17: The righteous cry, and the LORD hears.

ABRAHAM’S INTERCESSION FOR THE RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE OF SODOM. v.22-33

- J.M Boice points out 4 observations about Abraham’s prayer in this text:

1. It was MODEST. Abraham did not pry into matters that were beyond his knowledge.

2. It was HUMBLE. Abraham did not ask on the basis of his righteousness. v.27

3. It was PERSISTENT. Abraham kept asking for more. (6 X’s). James 4:2; Eph. 3:12; Heb. 4:16

4. It was PERSUASIVE. Not by eloquence or the ‘right words’—but by pleading God’s own character & promises.

APPLICATION: THE COMING JUDGMENT OF GOD

1. God’s judgment will surely occur. v.17

2. God’s judgment should be taught to our covenant children. v.19

3. God’s judgment is truly just. v.21

→ Verse 25: “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?”

4. God’s judgment will not spare the wicked. v.24

5. God’s judgment will spare the righteous. v.25-26

→ Sodom was a wicked city without even 10 righteous people and God will destroy it in righteousness.

→ The only escape from the coming judgment and wrath of God is through faith in His Son Jesus Christ.

Heb. 6:18: we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

Romans 3:22: ...the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe...