

God's Warning to Those Who Do Not Treasure Him

Genesis 18:22-33; 19:12-17, 23-29

Jude 1-7

Matthew 11:20-24



30 October 2022

Make Your Argument

Do We Treasure God Above Everything Else?

- Psalm 73:7-9 - Are we *abundantly satisfied*?
- Matthew 22:37-38 - Do we love God with our everything?

Do We Meditate on God's Law and Delight in It? (Psalm 1:1-3)

- **DELIGHT**: Psalm 119:16, 24, 35, 47, 70, 77, 92, **143, 174**.
 - ★ Do you **serve God** with **joy and gladness of heart**? (Deut 28:47-48)
- **LOVE** God's Law: Psalm 119:47, 48, 97, 113, 119, 127, 159, **163, 165, 167**.
Do you love God's Law?
- Do you desire to please God by serving and teaching even the least of His commandments? (Matthew 5:19; Luke 16:10; 19:17)
- **WHAT ABOUT US?** Can someone be a Christian without loving His Word exceedingly?

Do We Take God's NAME Seriously?

- Christ taught that we ought to pray daily that God's name be hallowed.
(Matthew 6:9)

What We Have Learned in October

The WORD: Do We Believe God? (Rom 15:4; Jude 7; 1 Cor 10:1-11)

- This sermon is for US. It is a message for the world. It is a message for those who call themselves Christians - God's people.
- The Word is CLEAR that the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah was an example/serious warning for those who do not treasure God in not taking Him serious.
- It is a message for the UNGODLY. What is your definition of "ungodliness"?
 - Are you a GODLY person?
- Christians **pursue** godliness. And they **pursue** love, holiness, righteousness, gentleness, edification . . . (1 Timothy 6:11; Heb 12:14)
- Christians **exercise** themselves in godliness. (1 Timothy 4:7-8)

- Christians **practice** (have a lifestyle) of living in accordance with God's righteousness as given in His Word. (1 John 2:28-3:10)
- **BECAUSE** *the grace of God* **causes** them to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age. (Titus 2:11-12)

Who Is Your God?

- Attributes of God often ignored: Anger, Vengeance, Hatred, Fury, Wrath, Judgment
 - God IS angry with those who do not take Him seriously all day long. (Psalm 7:11)
 - God HATES those who ignore His commandments. (Psalm 5:5)
 - The wrath of God abides on those who do not take His Word seriously. (John 3:36)
 - God is slow to anger but He promises to pour out His vengeance, anger and wrath on those who do not bow down and serve Him. (Nahum 1:2-3)
 - Those who do not live righteously will not be allowed into the kingdom of God. (1 Cor 6:9-10; Eph 5:5-6; Gal 5:19-21)
- **Romans 11:22** - written to those who considered themselves Christians.
- Examples for God's Wrath (Jude 5-7)
 - The Israelites sinned with unbelief and disobedience. (v. 5)
 - The fallen angels sinned with rebellion and dissatisfaction with God. (v. 6)
- The Flood (Genesis 6-8) — It was God!
- Ten Plagues in Exodus 6-12 --- It was God!
- The Book of Lamentations - It was God! It was God's people!
- God is serious! God is the One who kills and make alive. (Deut 32:39-42)

Three Visitors (Genesis 18:1-15)

Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19; Jude 7)

- REMEMBER: This is recorded for our learning!
- The people of Sodom and Gomorrah sinned by indulging in all kinds of sexual immorality. (Jude 7)
- **(Luke 12:48)** Consider carefully the disadvantages of the Sodomites and us:
 - Sodom had no churches; we have thousands.
 - Sodom had no Bibles; we have millions.
 - Sodom had no preachers; we have thousands plus thousands.
 - Sodom had no Bible schools; we have hundreds.
 - Sodom had no MP3s, radio or internet Bible blogs, videos, streams; we have many.

- Sodom had no internet to do research; almost everyone in the West has access to the internet.
- Sodom had no histories of God's judgment to warn it of danger; we have volumes of them.
- **YET GOD DESTROYED THEM FOR THEIR SINFULNESS.**
- Is not the world today also guilty of the SAME sins of Sodom and Gomorrah? – **EVEN MORE SO!**
- Is not the world today also guilty of GREATER sins than Sodom?
- Are not those who call themselves Christians and so-called Christian churches guilty of the same sins as Sodom and Gomorrah?
- Are we so FOOLISH in believing that our nations are beyond the JUDGMENT of God?
- As Lot's sons-in-laws laughed at Lot's warnings of coming judgment, do we also believe in our hearts that it will not come during our lifetime or soon? (See Genesis 19:14; Zephaniah 1:12)
- Sodom did not know God (Elohim)! Do Christians TODAY know God?
 - Do they only know Him as a God of love only? (John 3:16)
 - Do they know Him as a God of WRATH? (John 3:36)
 - Do they know Him as a God who has PROMISED to take vengeance on those who do not treasure Him and take Him seriously? (Nahum 1:2-8; Deut 4:24; Heb 10:30)
 - Do they know Him as One who will take vengeance on those who do not know Him (**as** He has revealed Himself in Scripture) **and** on those who do not **OBEY** the Gospel? (2 Thess 1:8-9)

Abraham Intercedes (Genesis 18:22-33)

- Not even 10 righteous persons were found!
- (Jeremiah 5:1) Not even ONE man **among "God's" people.**
- (Luke 18:8) Will the Son of man find **ANY**?
- (Psalm 12:1) The righteous man has ceased!
- (Micah 7:1-2) The faithful man has perished from the earth.
- (Luke 18:8) Will Christ find righteous and faithful servants when He returns!!!
- NOTE that God is slow to anger: Psalm 103:8; 145:8; Nahum 1:3
- BUT **throughout** all of His Word He has shown that His patience is not infinite.

God JUDGES! (Genesis 19)

- The destruction with fire and brimstone of Sodom, Gomorrah, and the other cities of the plain are **WARNINGS** for us, our children and our generation.
- God has revealed to us Himself and His way in the Bible.
- (Matt 11:23-24) Christ warns us, as He did Capernaum, that "it will be MORE TOLERABLE of Sodom in the day of judgment" than for us.
 - ★ If this is true for Capernaum - how much more does it mean for US!

- **BUT** those who have been deceived will also be judged as ENEMIES of God because they failed to heed the warnings of God, failed to take the Word of God seriously, and failed to TEST ALL they heard. (See 1 Thess. 5:21)
- They will have their excuses: “I had no time!”, “It was difficult for me!”, “How could I know the difference between the real Gospel and a counterfeit Gospel,” “I believed in Jesus!” **BUT** they will only be excuses.
- **BUT READ:**
 - (Gen 19:24) “The **LORD** rained fire and brimstone . . .”
 - (Gen 19:25) “The **LORD** overthrew the cities . . .”
 - (Gen 19:29) “**God** destroyed . . .”
- **And Sodom had NONE of the privileges that this generation has!**

Example for Us

- Goodness **and** Severity of God: Romans 11:22
- Great White Throne Judgment and Hell. (Revelation 20:11-15)

Do You Treasure God?

- I did not say, “Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ?”
- Do you treasure God above ALL ELSE, above EVERYTHING ELSE?
 - ★ If you do not love God, Christ and the Church above all else; if God, Christ, and His Church are not your top priority you cannot be a disciple!!! (Luke 14:26-27; Matthew 10:37)
 - ★ Do we love God with ALL your heart, with ALL your soul, and with ALL your mind?” (Matthew 22:37-38)
 - ★ (John 14:21, 23-24) Is our love for God demonstrated, shown to the world, by taking His Word seriously in obeying His commandments? (1 John 2:3-4, 5:1-3)
 - ★ Does God SATISFY us FULLY? (Psalm 36:7-9; Jeremiah 2:13; John 7:37)
 - ★ Is Christ’s love YOUR greatest motivation to OBEY Him? (John 14:15, 21-24, 15:10, 13-14)
- (Luke 18:8) Do these word of Christ cause you to tremble? (Isaiah 66:2)

How Does One Escape God’s Wrath?

LISTEN!