

10. God's Judgment

An understanding of God's judgment is needed to understand God himself, and also his salvation for people. Additionally, the topic of God's judgment contains some of the most awe-inspiring teaching, and even reasons for hope for God's people.

Reasons for God's Judgment

God's judgment is to punish sin

[DANIEL, TO GOD:] All Israel has broken your law and turned away by not obeying you. *Therefore you have poured out on us the judgment solemnly threatened in the law of Moses the servant of God, for we have sinned against you.* DANIEL 9:11 NET

God's judgment is to discipline his people

[PAUL, TO BELIEVERS:] But *when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined* so that we may not be condemned with the world. 1 CORINTHIANS 11:32 NET

God's judgment is to punish the wicked

But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been reserved for fire, by being kept for *the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.* 2 PETER 3:7 NET

The Justice of God's Judgment

God judges fairly

[DAVID, TO GOD:] *You are fair and honest in your judgments, and you have judged in my favour.* PSALMS 9:4 GNT

God judges correctly

"Yes, Lord God Almighty, *your judgments are true and fair.*" REVELATION 16:7B GW

God repays people according to what they have done

[PAUL, SPEAKING OF GOD'S FINAL JUDGMENT:] *On that day everyone will see God's right judgments. ⁶God will reward or punish every person for what that person has done.* ROMANS 2:5B-6 NCV™

God gives fair warning of judgment

[GOD:] *There are times, Jeremiah, when I threaten to uproot, tear down, and destroy a nation or kingdom. ⁸But if that nation I threatened stops doing wrong, I will cancel the destruction I intended to do to it.* JEREMIAH 18:7-8 NET

What God says here regarding nations is also applicable to individuals.

The Wicked and God's Judgment

People may question God's apparent lack of judgment regarding the wicked

[JEREMIAH:] LORD, when I bring my case to you, you are always right. *But I want to ask you about the justice you give. Why are evil people successful? Why do dishonest people have such easy lives?* JEREMIAH 12:1 NCV™

But in due time God does take action against the wicked

[GOD:] *To me belong vengeance and recompense. In due time their feet will slip, because their time of calamity is near and the things prepared for them draw near.* DEUTERONOMY 32:35 ISV

Pray for persecuted Christians