

Series "Knowing And Growing In Christ"
"Wrath And Rescue"
2 Peter 2:4-10
Study-6

God Is A God Of Compassion: Lamentations 3:21-23.

God Is A God Of Righteousness: (God is Truth) Romans 2:1-3.

Peter, in our passage, presents these two characteristics of God – God's Compassion and God's Righteousness! (Truth/Judgment)

2 Peter 2 – Faith's Contentions: Keep Resisting False Teachers.

Thought Of The Passage: "God Is A God Of Lovingkindness, But Also A God Of Judgment To Those Who Reject His Grace."

1. Verse 4 – Fallen Angels

2. Verse 5 – Flooded World

3. Verses 6-8 – Filthy Cities

4. Verses 9-10 – God's In Control

1. Verse 4 – Fallen Angels:

2 Peter 2:4 – "For" – or "Since" – Peter had just said that punishment awaited the false teacher – 2 Peter 2:1, 2.

"For" – "Since" – Peter now introduces evidence that God will carry out His judgment: "if God did not spare angels when they sinned," – The Jews of Peter's day understood it to mean rebellion and/or sensual lust – (Jude 5-7)
– **There are 2 views on this passage:**

1. Satan's Rebellion: "if God did not spare angels (even angels) when they sinned," – When did this happen? Peter does not reveal the time.

Isaiah 14:12-21; Ezekiel 28:12-19; Revelation 12:3-9 – 1/3 of the angels joined.

Isaiah; Ezekiel – It says in both, that Satan was cast out.

2. The Son's Of God: "if God did not spare angels (even angels) when they sinned," – Genesis 6:4.

Jude 1:6 – The final judgment – Revelation 20.

“cast them into hell” – A single Greek word used only here in the NT; used in Greek mythology – “Tartarus”, “the deepest abyss of Hell – to incarcerate in eternal torment, reserved for evil gods and wicked people.”

“and committed them to pits of darkness,” – this word “pits” (chains) – was used of “the pit that would hold wild beasts, animals that were captured and held in a pit;” Loss of personal freedom.

“reserved for judgment;” – “Great White Throne Judgment” – Revelation 20:11-15.

Ephesians 6:12

2. Verse 5 – Flooded World:

2 Peter 2:5 – “and did not spare the ancient world,” – Genesis 6-7;
1 Peter 3:18-22.

Genesis 6:5 – “wickedness of man” – This speaks of the outward working of sin.

“and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart” – This speaks of the inward attitude – The true condition of the heart.

Genesis 6:11

Note the entire world was sinning, but God did not give impunity.

Rescued From The Judgment: “but preserved Noah,” – “preserved” – “to spare, forbear, abstain, keep safe”; compare Genesis 7:16 – “LORD closed it behind him.” – “the Lord shut him in.”

“Noah” – is mentioned more than 50X in different books of the Bible.

“a preacher of righteousness,” – He pleaded and tried to convert the lost world! – 1 Peter 3:19-20.

Noah’s Faith In God: Genesis 6:9.

Noah Was A Righteous Man: (Standing Before God) – “was a righteous man,” – This is the first time the word “righteous” is used. His righteousness came from God, in response to his personal faith.

Noah Was A Blameless Man: (Standing Before Man) – “blameless in his time;” – The word “blameless” – “integrity, whole, unblemished”. It was used to describe animals that were acceptable to be offered as sacrifice.

Noah Walked With God: "Noah walked with God" – Genesis 6:22.

"with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;" – 2 Peter 2:1 – "bringing swift destruction upon themselves." – Human depravity is the cause of divine judgment!

1 Peter 3:20

3. Verses 6-8 – Filthy Cities:

2 Peter 2:6 – This happened in Genesis 19: Area of the Dead Sea.

Ezekiel 16:49-50; Jude 1:7

The term "Sodomite" has the idea of "gross evil and perversion."

"destruction by reducing them to ashes," – "burning them to ashes" – Same word used in literature of Pompeii, AD 79 – Genesis 19:24-25.

"having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter;" – Model or pattern to be carefully avoided; used over 20X in Scripture.

2 Peter 2:7

Judgment With Discernment: "and if He rescued righteous Lot," – "rescued" – "delivered through God's intervention" – Genesis 18:23-32 – prayer, underserved grace in Lot's life – Genesis 19:29.

"righteous" – used 3X of Lot. This is the righteousness through faith alone – "innocent, holy, just" – Lot was weak.

Lot compromised – Genesis 13 – Lot chose the best pastureland; Jordan Valley – Gross immorality – Genesis 18:20. Not even 10 righteous people lived there – Genesis 18:23-32; 19:13 – Lot was a bit callous because when God sent angels to rescue him, he hesitated – Genesis 19:16.

"oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men" – "oppressed" – "wearied out, tormented, distressed, shocked, knocked about morally" – "sensual conduct of unprincipled men" – "filthy lives of lawless men."

2 Peter 2:8 – "(for by what he saw and heard ("day in, day out") that righteous man, while living among them," – Lot chose to live in Sodom – Genesis 13:11.

Genesis 19:4-11

“felt his righteous soul tormented day after day” – “Lot was tortured by what he saw and heard” – “lawless deeds),” – “defiance of the known will of God.”

4. Verses 9-10 – God’s In Control:

2 Peter 2:9

It’s Comforting To Know That God Rescues: “then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation,”

“rescue” – “to drag out of danger” – Matthew 6:13 – “And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” – “to drag us out of danger.”

1 Corinthians 10:13

This Is A Warning: “and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment,”

2 Peter 2:10 – “and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires” – “pollution, unwholesome” – Jude 1:7.

Ezekiel 3:18

“and despise authority” – “lordship” – Reject Jesus’ rule over them! – Jude 1:8.

1 Corinthians 15:25-26

Application:

1. The Fallen Angels Teach Us: That No-One Is Exempt From Judgment. Judgment, Though Delayed, Is Real.
2. The Flooded World Teaches Us: God’s Inevitable Judgment Can Be Escaped. Noah And His Family Are An Example. We Are To Hold To That Offer, Even If Others Mock.
3. The Filthy Cities Teach Us: The Pattern Of That Judgment Has Been Revealed. Living A Godly Life In An Ungodly World Will Be Difficult: 1 Corinthians 10:13.