

...but God

Series with Skip Heitzig

SERIES:	...but God
MESSAGE:	Judgment Is Coming...but God
SPEAKER:	Skip Heitzig
SCRIPTURE:	Genesis 6-8

MESSAGE SUMMARY

The two worst days of the human race are days of destruction. A near total annihilation happened in the distant past and will happen again in the future. Both are directly the result of God's judgment. Just as certain as the sun will shine tomorrow, judgment is coming eventually—but God has a better alternative. As we examine His past judgment on the earth, we will be able to better understand His future judgment and how we can find purpose in His plans for His world.

DETAILED NOTES

- I. Introduction
 - A. We evaluate—judge—everything from food and restaurant service to people
 1. Athletes, singers, and dancers are judged in competition
 2. Law enforcement officers and courtrooms judge driving and crimes
 - B. There is a final evaluation for life by a perfect and impartial judge: God
 - C. Abraham called God the "Judge of all the earth" (Genesis 18:25)
- II. God Is Patient *but* He Judges (Genesis 6:1-3, 5-7)
 - A. God's judgment is based on His justice; God judges because He is just
 1. If God does not judge, then He is not just; if He is not just, then He is not perfect; and if He's not perfect, then He is not God
 2. God alone is qualified to judge (see Romans 3:23-26)
 3. He alone has all the facts (see Revelation 20:12)
 - B. God is slow to anger (see Psalm 103:8), but "[His] Spirit shall not strive with man forever" (v. 3)
 1. How patient is God?
 - a. Adam ate the forbidden fruit, but did not die for 930 years (see Genesis 5:5)
 - b. Canaanites were given 800 years for their iniquity to be full (see Genesis 15:16)
 - c. Noah was a "preacher of righteousness" (2 Peter 2:5) for 120 years while he built the ark
 2. God seems to let sin accumulate until His wrath must eclipse His mercy
 - C. Bible speaks of certainty of judgment for everyone (see Hebrews 9:27)
 - D. Jesus is both Savior and Judge
 1. He is the only one qualified to be both
 2. Jesus linked the flood to a future, final judgment (see Matthew 24:37-39)

- E. The days of Noah correlate to current times
 - 1. Increase in population (see v. 1)
 - 2. Increase in sexual depravity; breakdown of the traditional family (see vv. 2-4)
 - 3. Increase in wickedness (see v. 5)
 - 4. Increase in violence (see v. 11)
- F. During the time of God's patience, what are we supposed to do?
 - 1. Repent
 - 2. A refusal to repent attracts judgment (see Romans 2:3-6)
- III. God Judges *but* He Differentiates (Genesis 6:8, 11-14)
 - A. "But Noah found grace" (v. 8)
 - 1. Grace means favor
 - 2. Noah was a pleasure to the Lord; everyone else was not
 - B. "In the eyes of the LORD" (v. 8) indicates God sees deeper and knows more
 - 1. No creature hidden from His sight (see Hebrews 4:13)
 - 2. The ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord (see Proverbs 5:21)
 - 3. God looks at the heart (see I Samuel 16:7)
 - C. God sent judgment while He saved Noah
 - 1. God judges individually
 - 2. Peter pointed out God's differentiation with Noah (see 2 Peter 2:5)
 - 3. God lifted Noah off the earth
 - a. Could the ark foreshadow the rapture?
 - b. The same word, *harpazó*, is used, meaning to be taken up or to be snatched away (see I Thessalonians 4:17)
- IV. God Differentiates *but* He Doesn't Exempt (Genesis 7:1, 20-23)
 - A. Noah was not directly affected by the judgment, but he was indirectly affected
 - 1. In the ark for thirteen months, very isolated
 - 2. All friends and neighbors drowned
 - B. God's judgment of unbelievers should affect believers
 - 1. We should feel discomfort and be grieved
 - 2. We shouldn't be willing to let anyone perish (see 2 Peter 3:9)
- V. God Doesn't Exempt *but* He Does Remember (Genesis 8:1)
 - A. *But God* remembered Noah
 - 1. God had not forgotten Noah
 - 2. Now He fully turned His attention to Noah
 - B. Noah's story is not primarily about death or judgment, but life and establishment
 - C. From Genesis 8 on, the entire Bible is about life after the flood
- VI. Closing
 - A. God had a plan for Noah: fill the earth, start over, a second chance
 - B. God has a plan for you
 - 1. His plan includes hope and a future (see Jeremiah 29:11)
 - 2. He will complete His plan (see Philippians 1:6)
 - C. Judgment is coming again in the future
 - 1. But God sent Jesus to take the judgment in your place
 - 2. Jesus said believers are not judged (see John 5:24)
 - 3. Belief in Jesus Christ is your "ark," your salvation

Figures referenced: Horace Gray, Robert Ingersoll, Dr. Henry Morris, Leon Morris, Joseph Parker, Babe Ruth, Dr. John Whitcomb

Cross references: Genesis 3:15; 5:5; 15:16; 18:25; I Samuel 16:7; Psalm 103:8; Proverbs 5:21; Jeremiah 29:11; Matthew 24:37-39; John 5:24; Romans 2:3-6; 3:23-26; Philippians 1:6; I Thessalonians 4:17; Hebrews 4:13; 9:27; 2 Peter 2:5; 3:9; Revelation 20:12

Greek/Hebrew words: *harpazó*

Topic: Judgment

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