

Pastor Scott Archer 04.15.2018*

Central Congregational Church

"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors" www.ccclamesa.com

The Just Judgment of God

Revelation 15 & 16

Series: The Return of the King – The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Central Passage

Revelation 15:2–4 (ESV) — 2 And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire—and also those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. 3 And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations! 4 Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you, for your righteous acts have been revealed."

Central Thought: The wrath of God flows from his perfect love and is his just judgment "poured out" on the earth in response the godlessness, injustice, faithlessness and idolatry of all those who follow the ways of the Beast – and especially in response to the persecution of his faithful people.

A New Exodus – The Just Judgment of God is Revealed

The judgment of God is a source of great joy for the faithful who have suffered under spiritual, political and religious oppression. (15:1-5)

Psalm 96:11–13 (ESV) — 11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; 12 let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy 13 before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness. (See also all of Ps. 96 and Ps. 98, and Deut. 32)

Matthew 23:1–4 (ESV) — 1 Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 2 "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, 3 so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice. 4 They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger.

Romans 6:23 (ESV) — 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- ❖ The judgment of God is his just and final action against individuals and empires that continually harden their hearts against God. (16:1-21)
- **2 Thessalonians 1:5–10 (ESV) 5** This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering— 6 since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, 7 and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels 8 in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, 10 when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed. (See also Rom. 1:18-32)
 - ❖ Jesus is Savior and Judge (16:15)

Matthew 25:31–32 (ESV) — 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (ESV) — 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

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