

Studies in 2 Peter (9)
God's Wrath Against False
Teachers

2 Peter 2:4-10a

2 Peter - Previously

- Our past 2 lessons, we have addressed **2 Peter 2:1-3**, where Peter has warned that there will be false teachers among us. We discussed some of their character based upon the text. Tonight, we find out what is the fate of false teachers before God.

God did not spare angels ... - 2:4

- He did not spare angels who sinned
- We know little about angels. Related to our text:
 - They are messengers of God sent to help His people - **Hebrews 1:14**
 - Involved in judgments - **cf. Matthew 13:39-42, Genesis 19:1, etc.**
 - Created with (some) freewill - **text, Jude 6**
 - Demons are possibly fallen angels - **cf. Matthew 8:29**

God did not spare angels ... - 2:4

- Cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness

- Held for judgment

- “Hell” - ταρταρω (tartaroō) - Tartarus.

Only here in NT.

Thayer, the Greeks answer to Gehenna for the Jews.

Describes the place of the punishment of the wicked after life.

God did not spare angels ... - 2:4

- Cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness
- “Chains of darkness”; “pits of darkness” (NASB); “chains of gloomy darkness” (ESV).
- In some way, they were being restrained or confined.

God did not spare angels ... - 2:4

- Reserved for judgment - rebellious angels, as with rebellious man, are awaiting a final judgment.

Jude 6

- There is a day of reckoning coming -
Acts 17:30-31, Matthew 25:31ff,
2 Corinthians 5:10, Romans 14:10-12, etc.
- IF God will punish angelic beings, he will punish us as well.

Cf. Matthew 25:41,
Revelation 20:10, 14-15

The world destroyed by flood - 2:5

- He did not spare the ancient world
- The flood as recorded in **Genesis 6-8**
- **Gen. 6:5-7, 11-12** - the world was very wicked. God determined a day.
- Noah found grace - **Genesis 6:8**
He built an ark saving him and his family (eight people). NOTE: The Greek is the word for eighth (not “with 7 others”), though that is factually correct. **1 Peter 3:20-21** - eight souls

The world destroyed by flood - 2:5

- Noah, a preacher of righteousness
- **Genesis 6:9**, Noah was a just man, perfect in his generation. He walked with God.
Hebrews 11:7 - a man of faith.
- Our text mentions a fact not previously mentioned - a preacher of righteousness. Likely, this is what he did as he prepared the ark - WARNING the people of coming judgment.

The world destroyed by flood - 2:5

- Flooding the world of the ungodly.
- God judged and cleansed the world, in essence starting over with Noah and his family.
BUT He knew who belonged to Him.

Sodom and Gomorrah - 2:6-8

- Turned into ashes
- **Genesis 19** describes the destruction of Sodom (and surrounding valley).
- The city was so perverted with immorality (homosexuality - **Jude 7, Genesis 19**). Not even 10 righteous were found in the city.
- **Genesis 19:24**, God rained fire and brimstone utterly destroying the area

Sodom and Gomorrah - 2:6-8

- Making them an example
- **2 Peter 2:6, Jude 7**, WARNING us of the fate of the ungodly

Sodom and Gomorrah - 2:6-8

- Delivered righteous Lot
- **2 Peter 2:7-8,**
We know Lot had some issues.
 - He chose that land, even though it was corrupt
 - **Genesis 13:10-13.**
- But he was a righteous man whose soul was tormented by the wickedness around him. He served YHWH, but his choices came with a cost, including much of his family!

God knows how to deliver! 2:9-10

- He knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation
- IF He could deliver Lot, He can deliver us
- **1 Corinthians 10:13**
- The Lord knows who belongs to Him -
**2 Timothy 2:19 (cf. John 10:27,
1 Corinthians 8:3, etc.**

God knows how to deliver! 2:9-10

- And to reserve under punishment the unjust for the day of judgment.
- As noted, there is a day of judgment coming!
- **Matthew 25:31, 46** – the righteous and wicked will be separated and assigned their eternal reward.

God knows how to deliver! 2:9-10

- TAKE note of these 3 examples!
- These are extreme examples of God's judgment, BEFORE the end of earthly time!
- Peter relates these to how God feels about false teachers.

- IF that be so, how should WE react to false teachers?

Ephesians 5:11, Galatians 2:4-5

Give them time to repent - **Titus 3:10-11,**

Revelation 2:20-23, but...

God knows how to deliver! 2:9-10

- Especially those who walk according to the flesh
- Peter concludes, describing the nature of their conduct.
- In our next lesson we will develop this noting how God views false teachers

God knows how to deliver! 2:9-10

- Understand that false teachers CAN repent (Paul, Apollos, etc.), but if not, they will face God's wrath, and so will those who follow after them (cf. **2 Thessalonians 2:11-12**)

Where do you stand in
God's eyes?
Who will you choose to
follow?

Let us pray!