

God's Righteous Judgment

Revelation 9

Big Idea: God's judgment is precise and certain. The wrath we see in Revelation 9 is the same wrath Christ bore on the cross for believers. Today, share the gospel boldly—both the hard truth of coming judgment and the good news of salvation through Christ alone.

Day 1: The Holiness
That Changes
Everything

Reading:
Isaiah 6:1-8

When Isaiah encountered God's holiness, he cried "Woe is me!" Despite being perhaps the most righteous person of his time, he recognized the vast chasm between a holy God and sinful humanity. The threefold declaration—"Holy, holy, holy"—represents the highest possible expression of God's absolute purity. This same holiness that caused Isaiah to tremble is what makes the cross necessary. Today, pause and consider: if the most righteous prophet felt utterly undone before God's holiness, how much more should we marvel that Christ bridged this impossible gap? Let this truth humble you and fill you with gratitude. Spend time in confession, not from fear, but from love for the One who made you clean.

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Day 2: The Wrath We Escaped

Reading:
Romans 2:1-11

Scripture warns that unrepentant hearts "store up wrath" for the day of judgment. This isn't pleasant to contemplate, yet it magnifies the wonder of salvation. The same judgment described in Revelation—demonic torment, unquenchable suffering, inescapable horror—was the destiny Christ absorbed on your behalf. Every sin you've committed, every rebellious thought, every moment of disobedience deserved this wrath. But Jesus took it all. Today, don't minimize your sin or God's judgment; instead, let the reality of what you've been saved from deepen your worship. Thank God specifically for taking the wrath that was rightfully yours. Let this truth compel you to live differently, not from obligation, but from overwhelming gratitude.

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Day 3: The Gift of Repentance

Reading:
2 Timothy 2:22-26;
Acts 11:15-18

Repentance isn't something we muster up through willpower—it's a gift from God's Spirit. Thomas Watson described it as being "inwardly humbled and visibly reformed." Without God's grace drawing us, we would remain dead in sin, unable to see our need or seek Him. Martin Luther's obsessive confession reveals a heart awakened to sin's seriousness and God's holiness. While we don't need a priest as our mediator, we should maintain Luther's hatred of sin and passion for purity. Living in constant confession isn't neurotic—it's realistic about our ongoing struggle and God's ongoing grace. Today, ask God to give you a fresh sensitivity to sin and a deeper appreciation for the gift of repentance He's placed in your heart.

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Day 4: Compelled to
Thunder

Reading:
Ezekiel 33:1-11; 2
Corinthians 5:11-21

John Knox said he felt "compelled to thunder out" God's warnings to obstinate rebels.

This isn't unloving—it's the most loving thing we can do. People around you are storing up wrath, headed toward the judgments described in Revelation, yet many Christians remain silent. We speak easily about God's love but whisper about His wrath. True love warns. The watchman who sees danger and stays silent bears responsibility for those who perish. God has given you the ministry of reconciliation—both the privilege and the responsibility to proclaim the full gospel: humanity's desperate condition, God's righteous judgment, and Christ's sufficient sacrifice. Today, ask God for holy boldness. Identify one person who needs to hear, and pray for an opportunity to "thunder out" both warning and hope.

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Day 5: Precise Timing,
Perfect Justice

Reading:
Habakkuk 2:1-3;
2 Peter 3:8-15

Revelation reveals God's judgment with stunning precision—specific hours, days, months, and years appointed. Nothing happens randomly; everything unfolds according to divine schedule. This same God who orchestrates cosmic judgment with exactness also times every detail of your life. Are you tired of waiting for God's "precise timing"? His delays aren't denials—they're opportunities for more people to come to repentance. What feels like divine slowness is actually divine patience. The same God who will one day say "enough" to human rebellion is currently saying "not yet" because He desires more to be saved. Today, surrender your timeline to His.

Trust that the God whose judgment is perfectly timed also perfectly times His blessings, His answers, and His interventions in your life. Wait with hope, knowing His

Notes: timing is always precise and always good.
