

THE DUE ORDER OF GOD’S INTERESTS

1. The Glory of God:

His honor, name, His Word, take precedence over everything.
He will share His Glory with no one nor anything.

2. The Purity of the Bride:

This facet of His interests overrides everything in the earthly realm.

3. The Salvation of Man:

This is the third level of God’s interests; important to Him, for His creation, no doubt. Our problem has been, is, and will be, that we do not understand God’s judgments *because we see them from our perspective, not God’s*. Ours is a perspective of hedonism, of self-centeredness; of *our* well-being, *our* health, *our* healing, *our* salvation

OLD TESTAMENT JUDGMENTS APPLICABLE TO NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANS

- I Cor. 10:1-12 Especially verse 6: “Now these things (OT happenings) were examples (warnings) for us that we should not desire evil as they did.”
v. 11: “Now these things happened to them as a warning, and were written down for our instruction, upon whom the end of the ages has come.”
- Romans 2:11-16 (Please read these entire passages for their full messages.)
- Hebrews 4:1-11
- Hebrews 10:26-29

REASON FOR JUDGMENT

- Ezek. 6:7,10,13,14 “So that you shall know that I am the LORD.”
- Ezekiel 7:4,9b
- Ezekiel 14:23 “...they shall know that I have not done without cause all that I have done in it,” says the LORD.
- Ezekiel 15:7,8 “...and you will know that I am the LORD, when I set my face against them. And I will make the land desolate, **because they have acted faithlessly,**” says the LORD God.

Essentially, these and other passages illustrate the principle that the peoples of the nations must not only know that GOD IS, but that He is the LORD, and that the very universe would disintegrate if and when that principle is no longer held to be evident. Thus, God must move before the disintegration takes place. He cannot allow Himself to be ignored, let alone disregarded. Moreover, the principle of His character that demands justice dictates judgment. The overall reason is illustrated above.

JUDGMENT NOT CONFINED TO JUST ISRAEL

- Jeremiah 12:17 “But *if any nation* will not listen, then I will utterly pluck it up and destroy it,” says the Lord.
- Jeremiah 9:9 “Shall I not punish them for these things?” says the Lord, “and shall I not avenge myself on *a nation such as this?*”
- Jeremiah 5:9 “Shall I not punish them for these things?” says the Lord, “and shall I not avenge myself on *a nation such as this?*”
- Ezekiel 14:12 And the word of the Lord came to me, “Son of man, *when a land* sins against Me by acting faithlessly, and I stretch my hand against it, and break its staff of bread and send famine upon it, and cut off from it man and beast, even if these three men Noah, Daniel and Job were in it, they would deliver but their own lives.”

SELF-DEFINED JUDGMENTS

- Ezekiel 24:12,14 “In vain have I wearied myself; its thick scum does not go out of it by fire. its scum is your filthy lewdness...I the LORD have spoken, it shall come to pass, I will do it; I will not go back, I will not spare, I will not repent; *according to your ways and your doings I will judge you,*” says the Lord
- Ezekiel 36:19b,21 “...*in accordance with their deeds I judged them,*...But I had concern for my Holy name, which the house of Israel caused to be profaned among the nations to which they came.”
- Ezekiel 9:9,10 “...the guilt of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great; the land is full of blood, and the city full of injustice; for they say, ‘The Lord has forgiven, the Lord does not see.’ As for me, my eye will not spare, nor will I have pity, but I will *requite their deeds upon their heads.*”
- Ezekiel 7:8,9 “Now I will pour out my wrath upon you, and spend my anger against you, and *judge you according to your ways,* and I will punish you for all your abominations. And My eye will not spare, nor will I have pity; *I will punish you according to your ways,* while your abominations are in your midst. Then you will know I am the Lord, who smite.”

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| Ezekiel 7:3 | “Now the end is upon you, and <i>I will judge you according to your ways</i> ; and I will punish you for all your abominations.” |
| Ezekiel 14:23 | “...when you see <i>their ways and their doings</i> ; and you shall know I have not done without cause all that I have done in it,” says the Lord. |
| Ezekiel 21:24 | “...your transgressions are uncovered, so that <i>in all your doings</i> , your sins appear because you have come to remembrance, <i>you shall be taken in them.</i> ” |
| Ezekiel 16:59 | “I will deal with you <i>as you have done</i> , who despised the oath.” |
| Isaiah 3:11 | “Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, for <i>what his hands have done shall be done to him.</i> ” |
| Isaiah 65:6,7 | “...I will not keep silent, but I will repay, yea, I will repay unto their bosom (their) iniquities, and your father’s iniquities together,” says the Lord... “ <i>I will measure into their bosom payment for their former doings.</i> ” |
| Jeremiah 44:22,23 | “The Lord could no longer bear your evil doings and the abominations which you committed; therefore, your land has become a desolation and a waste and a curse, without inhabitant, as it is to this day. <i>It is because you burned incense, and because you sinned against the Lord</i> , and did not obey the voice of the Lord or walk in His law and in His statutes and in His testimonies, <i>that this evil has befallen you</i> , as at this day.” |
| Jeremiah 4:18 | “Your ways and your doings have brought this upon you. This is your doom, and it is better; it has reached your very heart.” |
| Jeremiah 17:10 | “I, the Lord, search the mind and try the heart, to give to every man <i>according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.</i> ” |
| Jeremiah 21:14 | “ <i>I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings,</i> ” says the Lord. “I will kindle a fire in her forest, and it shall devour all that is round about her.” |
| Jeremiah 32:19 | “...the Lord of Hosts,...is <i>rewarding every man according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings.</i> ” |
| Jeremiah 23:1,2 | “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture... Behold, <i>I will attend to you for your evil doings,</i> ” says the Lord. |
| Hosea 4:9 | “And it shall be like people, like priest, <i>I will punish them for their ways, and requite them for their deeds.</i> ” |
| Hosea 9:15 | “Every evil of theirs is in Gilgal; there I began to hate them. <i>Because of the wickedness of their deeds I will drive them out of MY House.</i> ” |
| Hosea 12:2 | The Lord has an indictment against Israel, and <i>will punish them according to his ways and requite them according to his deed.</i> |
| Micah 7:13 | <i>But the earth will be desolate because of its inhabitants for the fruit of their doings.</i> |
| Zechariah 1:6b | <i>As the Lord of Hosts purposed to deal with us for our ways and deeds, also shall we reap.</i> |
| Galatians 6:7 | “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked, <i>for whatsoever a man sows, that also shall he reap.</i> ” |

CONSEQUENCES OF THE SHEDDING OF INNOCENT BLOOD

- Numbers 35:33,34 “You shall not thus pollute the land in which you live, for blood pollutes the land, and ***no expiation can be made*** for the land, for the blood that is shed in it, ***except by the blood of him who shed it.***”
- Psalms 106:38 “...they poured out innocent blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; and ***the land was polluted with blood.***”
- Psalms 106:40,41 “***Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against His people***, and He abhorred His heritage; He gave them into the hand of the nations...”
- Ezekiel 9:9,10 “then he said to me, “The guilt of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great; ***the land is full of blood***, and the city full of injustice;...As for Me, My eye will not spare, nor will I have pity, but ***I will requite their deeds upon their heads.***”
- Ezekiel 16:38,49 “And ***I will judge you as women who break wedlock and she blood are judged***, and bring upon you the blood of wrath and jealousy.” “Behold, this was the sin of your sister Sodom; she and her daughters had pride, surfeit of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy.”
- Ezekiel 21:32 “You shall be fuel for the fire; ***your blood shall be in the midst of the land.***”
- Ezekiel 22:1-13 “Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, ‘And you, son of man, will you judge, ***will you judge the bloody city?*** Then declare to her all her abominable deeds. You shall say, “Thus says the Lord God: ***A city that sheds blood*** in the midst of her, that her time may come, and that makes idols to defile herself! ***You have become guilty by the blood which you have shed***, and defiled by the idols which you have made; and you have brought your day near, the appointed time of your years has come. Therefore, I have made you a reproach to the nations, and a mocking to all the countries. Those who are near and those who are far from you will mock you, you infamous one, full of tumult. Behold, the princes of Israel in you, every one according to his power, ***have been bent on shedding blood.*** Father and mother are treated with contempt in you; the sojourner suffers extortion in your midst; the fatherless and the widow are wronged in you. You have despised my Holy things and profaned My Sabbaths. ***There are men in you who*** slander and ***shed blood***, and men in you who eat upon the mountains; men commit lewdness in your midst. In you men uncover their father’s nakedness; in you they humble women who are unclean in their impurity. One commits abomination with his neighbor’s wife; another lewdly defiles his daughter-in-law; another in you defiles his sister, his father’s daughter. ***In you men take bribes to shed blood***; you take interest and increase and make gain of your neighbors by extortion; and you have forgotten Me, says the Lord God. Behold, therefore, ***I strike My hands together at the dishonest gain which you have made, and at the blood which has been in the midst of you.***” “.... ***Her princes in the midst of her*** like wolves tearing the prey, ***shedding blood***, destroying lives to get gain.”

Ezek. 23:37,39,45 “For they have committed adultery, and ***blood is upon their hands*** ...they have slaughtered their children in sacrifice to their idols. ***But righteous men shall pass judgment upon them*** with the sentence of adulteresses, and with ***the sentence of women that shed blood, because*** they are adulteresses, and ***blood is upon their hands.***”

Ezekiel 35:6 “***I will prepare you for blood, and blood shall pursue you; because you are guilty of blood, and blood shall pursue you.***”

Ezekiel 36:18,19 “***So I poured out My wrath upon them for the blood which they had shed in the land,*** for the idols with which they had defiled it ...in accordance with their conduct and their deeds I judged them.”

The attitude of hate, murder and ultimate resentment against the very ***existence*** of Israel today (4/7/02) by the whole world is a physical picture of what will occur against spiritual Israel in the near future. Watch, prepare and wait; only those He **knows** will survive.

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