

START HERE #14: GENESIS 7:23-25 – 8 “GOD’S RAINBOW”

The Real Picture of NOAH – catastrophic dest/carnival.... We r for w/conditions

Oppressive world leaders wreck-havoc, victimization – exploitation go unpunished. WHY IS JUSTICE OF GOD DIFFICULT? Localizes sin within us. Levels the playing field and puts us all in the same moral dilemma. Strips us of our ability to save ourselves. Cuts through our moral ambiguity that we create when we justify behaviors that are wrong. **WHAT WE DON'T LIKE**

MP: The justice of God is purposed to lead people to His mercy through Jesus.

Noah completes, animals come, God invites, rains, 150 days, subside, altar, covenant

GOD IS JUST

God of justice, righteous judge, Judge of all earth, judge of living and dead, judge of Israel.

- **Judge:** God is the only one who has a right to render justice human heart.
- **Just:** God always renders justice rightly. Never wrong. YOU WANT THAT.

Justice isn't something that God has, it's something that He is. Tozer

THE EXPRESSION OF GOD'S JUSTICE IS ALWAYS RIGHT

The reasons: the earth was corrupt before God, filled with violence, wickedness was great, thoughts and intent of heart continually on evil, intermarriage godly line

LORD WAS SORRY, GRIEVED, DESTROY: regret/repented.

- God doesn't repent like man repents: forgiveness of sin – **NO SIN IN GOD**

God is never taken by surprise, never makes a mistake – all ways good, right, true Human way of expressing the totality of grief in God's heart over human condition.

John Gill: God's response to their wickedness is a wounded "heart" filled with pain.

- **DIVINE MORAL EXPECTATION – CORRUPT BEFORE GOD - LOOKED**
 - o Light of Conscience / Light of Creation / Oral Testimony – **RESPONSIBLE**

While the serpent was the predator in the garden sin was localized human heart

- **DIVINE CONSEQUENCES:** I will destroy – NOT UNFAIR – **retributive JOG**

Deuteronomy 32:4 *He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.*

THE JUSTICE OF GOD IS DISTINGUISHED BY HIS GRACE

NOAH/FAMILY SINGLED OUT – point isn't goodness Noah but graciousness of God was God wasn't gracious to Noah because Noah was righteous. Noah believed God by faith and thereby received God's grace.

- Faith was evident – JUST/PERFECT IN HIS GENERATION/WALKED WITH GOD

Ephesians 2:8 *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.*

Our responsibility is to live by faith in God and His gospel, God's gift to us is His grace

THE STORM OF GOD'S JUSTICE IS TRIUMPHED BY HIS MERCY

When you go through a storm you have a greater tendency to turn to Romans 8 instead of Genesis 8

1. GOD REMEMBERS NOAH AND HE REMEMBERS YOU (8:1)

- **Remember:** to pay attention to, to fulfill a promise and act on behalf of somebody - Not having forgotten – because GOD CAN'T FORGET HIS PROMISE

- Noah felt forgotten – ark was buffeted on the waters 150 days **U TOO**
 - o Not Go but Come – invitation (not go away from me) – into His presence

2. GOD'S JUSTICE AND MERCY MEAN HE'S DOING SOMETHING NEW (8:20-21)

God doesn't judge just to destroy but to start something new.

James 2:13 Mercy triumphs over judgment.

- Birthing a covenant relationship with/ creation – starting new Noah's family
 - o Sign of the rainbow – JUSTICE and MERCY MEET/ Altar Consecration
 - o **Forest fires:** increases diversity, breaks down nutrients causing soil rich, heat of fire release seeds cones, clears out clutter forest floor, sunlight to reach forest floor, areas of grassland for animals to feed on
- EXPOSED TO THE MESSAGE OF GOD'S JUSTICE PURPOSE OF TURNING MERCY

Christians share the message of God's justice on sin happy unbeliever will be judged

- o NO: because sin is localized within (truth, humble, forgiving, merciful)

Blessed are the merciful for they shall receive mercy

Ezekiel 33:11 As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked.

3. GOD'S JUSTICE IS INTENDED TO DRAW PEOPLE TO JESUS

THE ARK IS A FORESHADOW OF CHRIST

Passed through the waters of judgement submerged under God's wrath -One entrance in side of the ark, one entrance tabernacle, one hole that pierced his side – COME

- Justice and mercy Kissed at the cross - Anyone can be saved
 - o God calls you to come

John 6:37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.