

- In a world of injustice we want justice, but people dislike the idea of God as judge

1. A just God must bring judgment

- Two things to remember before you think about judgment
 - God's patience before judging – Egypt had 400 years
 - God's many warnings before judging – 9 plagues, also Ex 4:23
- a) **It doesn't matter what you believe in – God will judge**
 - Pharaoh and son were meant to be sons of the god of life and death
 - Once again the beliefs of the Egyptians are shown to be empty
 - There is only one God, and all people must appear before him, no matter what they believe
- b) **It doesn't matter who you are – God will judge**
 - Status doesn't matter – both prince and pauper – 11:5
 - A hard life doesn't grant an exception from judgment
 - A religious life doesn't exempt – the Destroyer also visits Israel (12:23)
- “Those who will not bow to God's word must bend before his judgment” – Alec Motyer
- God's judgment is an awful reality, pictured for us here in miniature
- Judgment is not random or excessive, but the awful consequence of denying God our lives

2. A merciful God offers to bear judgment

- Between prediction and fulfilment of judgment is instruction about escape
- Escape is by substitution – a perfect lamb is to die in the place of each family
- All is pointing forward to Jesus, the ultimate Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29)
- At the Cross, the God who judges takes judgment on himself!
- If we accept Jesus' death for our sins, God will Passover us
- When judgment seems unutterably awful to us, we must look at the cross, and see the staggering mercy of God

3. A gracious God gives riches in the place of judgment

- Israel leave laden with treasure on their way to freedom (12:35-36)
- Mercy: not getting what we deserve. Grace: getting what we couldn't deserve
- God's rescue is a glorious rich freedom, pictured here in miniature
- The Christian gets so much more than forgiveness – Heaven, adopted, changed, strengthened, equipped, and most of all we get God.
- God may be a judge, but with him is an unparalleled mercy, and a glorious generosity



Notices

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| Sun | Evening service at Mark & Judith's
Questions and discussion on Exodus | 8pm |
| Tues | Midweek meeting at Stewart's - Study 8 | 8pm |
| Sat 1st | Evangelism Conference - Lisburn RPC
4 Workshops
Rural Evangelism - Rev. Philip Murphy
Urban Evangelism - Rev. David Sutherland
Small Group Evangelism - Rev. David McCullough
Topical Evangelism - Rev. Robert Robb

Refreshments provided mid-session. Bring your own lunch if required | 10:30am - 1:00pm |
| Sat 1st | The Edge young people's meeting
Bonaghee Hall in Letterkenny. Gareth Parker and Jamie McMillan of the band Mr. Jag will be speaking at this month's meeting.
There is more information available on our facebook page! | 8pm |
| Sun 9th | Communion Service | |
| Sat 15th | Concert in Alley Theatre in Strabane. See poster for details on the concert.
Speak to Caroline if you are interested in getting tickets.. £10 admission, £8 concession. Concert starts 8pm | |
| Sun 16th | “A life worth living“ An Evening of praise with the Genevans
Guild Hall Derry | |

Next passage: Mark 14:53-15:15

Opening Psalm: 119 part 1

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