

inflate • Righteous Judge

March 28, 2010

Week 7 of 8

INTRO VIDEO :: WAPNER DID HIS JOB WELL :: IDENTIFY THE WRONG AND MAKE IT RIGHT

GOD IS MY AIR: In every aspect of my life, God comes first. His Word is my only authority. His Son is my only Salvation. His glory is my greatest desire. I give him the first of my every opportunity.

BREATHING LESSONS

1. If you want the breath of God in your life, you need the Word of God in your heart (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
2. If you want to know the Word, you need to follow Jesus (Hebrews 1:1-4).
3. If you want to know Jesus, you need the Spirit (John 16:12-15)
4. If you want to know the breath of God, you need to know **who he is**.

• PRAY •

Today: God is our Righteous Judge

(LIFE GROUPS cross-reference 1 Corinthians 4:3-5 // I WANT A JUDGE TO GET MY ENEMIES)

A righteous judge will **right the wrongs!**

IF you knew there was a judge who always made the right call, would you want him as your judge?

MATTHEW 21:1-17 (P. 685)

READ & RETELL / WALKTHROUGH

1. The judgment of God follows a **different standard** than mine.

When you bring blind animals for sacrifice, is that not wrong? When you sacrifice crippled or diseased animals, is that not wrong? Try offering them to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you?" says the LORD Almighty. "Now implore God to be gracious to us. With such offerings from your hands, will he accept you?"—says the LORD Almighty. "Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar! I am not pleased with you," says the LORD Almighty, "and I will accept no offering from your hands. My name will be great among the nations, from the rising to the setting of the sun. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to my name, because my name will be great among the nations," says the LORD Almighty.

Malachi 1:8-11

AN INSULTING THREAT • OUR STANDARD IS "JUST ENOUGH" BUT GOD'S IS "ALL THE WAY"

You have wearied the LORD with your words. "How have we wearied him?" you ask. By saying, "All who do evil are good in the eyes of the LORD, and he is pleased with them" or "Where is the God of justice?" "See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty. But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap.

Malachi 2:17-3:2

2. The judgment of God comes against **all** wickedness.

Early in the morning, as he was on his way back to the city, he was hungry. Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, "May you never bear fruit again!" Immediately the tree withered. When the disciples saw this, they were amazed. "How did the fig tree wither so quickly?" they asked. Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

Matthew 21:18-22

This was a further judgment against the TEMPLE! • What is it like to have a judge who misses nothing? • ILL: Woodcrest Volleyball < "Eric" > • A righteous judge will right the wrongs. (THE REST OF THE STORY)

TEMPLE DIAGRAM

And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to serve him, to love the name of the LORD, and to worship him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." The Sovereign LORD declares—he who gathers the exiles of Israel: "I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered."

Isaiah 56:6-8

3. The judgment of God **heals** the **broken**.

**TO RIGHT THE WRONGS IS TO PUNISH THE WICKED AND HEAL THE BROKEN
THIS IS GOD'S GREAT DILEMMA • THE WICKED ARE THE BROKEN!**

God did it for us. Out of sheer generosity he put us in right standing with himself. A pure gift. He got us out of the mess we're in and restored us to where he always wanted us to be. And he did it by means of Jesus Christ. God sacrificed Jesus on the altar of the world to clear that world of sin. Having faith in him sets us in the clear. God decided on this course of action in full view of the public—to set the world in the clear with himself through the sacrifice of Jesus, finally taking care of the sins he had so patiently endured. This is not only clear, but it's now—this is current history! God sets things right. He also makes it possible for us to live in his rightness.

Romans 3:24-26 MSG

4. The judgment of God **fell** fully on Jesus.

A righteous judge will right the wrongs.

TAKE IT HOME

The one who judges me, **rights** all **wrongs**.

BEING JUDGED? TOWJMRAW • BEING VICTIMIZED? • FEELING BROKEN? • GUILTY?