"THE PATIENCE OF GOD AND JUDGEMENT"

Joshua 1:2 Fellowship

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Monthly Newsletter

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1 | Page

2 PETER 3:9 "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. <u>Instead He is</u> <u>patient with you</u>, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

God is a God of love, mercy and forgiveness but He is also a God of judgment. He is very patient with lost sinners, backsliders and borderline Christians. But there comes a time when the Christian, backslider or sinner continue in their willful sinning and disobedience and rebellion that God draws a line and says no more. He will deal with you to make a decision to repent and stop sinning and playing with sin or be in danger of crossing the line. People who cross the line God draws will have severe consequences and will pay the price for rejecting God's love, mercy, and patience. God is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but you must repent of your sins.

Lost Soul: Repent and accept Jesus as your personal Savior

<u>Backslider</u>: Repent and stop being a Prodigal son and come back to God.

Lukewarm Christian: Repent and go back to your First Love.

*THE BIBLE REVEALS THE PATIENCE OF GOD AND ALSO HIS JUDGMENT

THE PATIENCE OF GOD AND HIS JUDGMENT IN NOAH'S GENERATION

We can see the corruption of mankind in the Sixth Chapter of Genesis.

"The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time." Gen 6:5-6 (NIV)

Mankind became so evil that God said, "...I will blot man whom I have created from the face of the land..." Gen. 6:7 (NASB)

But there was one man that was walking with God and his name was Noah.

"<u>Noah was a righteous man</u>, <u>blameless</u> among the people of his time, and <u>he walked faithfully with God</u>." Gen. 6:9 (NIV)



Today we have people in this generation like those in the days of Noah. Lost Sinners and Backsliders who reject God and continue living in their wicked ways. Born-Again Christians walking like Noah, righteous and blameless. When the generation of Noah's day continued in

rebellion against God and walking deeper in their sins, He had no choice but to draw a line warning them of coming judgment.

"So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth" Gen. 6:13 (NIV)

God had given Noah's generation 120 years of mercy for them to repent and turn back to Him. "Then the Lord said, "My Spirit will not contend with humans forever, for they are mortal; <u>their days will be</u> <u>a hundred and twenty years</u>." Gen. 6:3

We can still see the patience of God for them to repent as He gives the rebels 7 more days so that they could repent and not be lost in the great flood.

"The Lord then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family... <u>Seven days</u> from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made.' Gen. 7:1,4

But God's patience toward a rebellious and sinful generation was running out! But the people did not repent and God had no choice but to destroy them! The Bible says, "And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth.

—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights." Gen. 7:10-11

God destroyed every human life on earth, **"all in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, died.**" Gen. 7:22

The only ones that survive this great flood were Noah, his wife, his three sons, and their wives. All of that generation was lost and are burning in hell and waiting to be judged by Jesus at the Great White Throne Judgment. Today we must preach the Gospel to a lost generation so that they will not be lost and burn in hell for eternity.

THE PATIENCE OF GOD AND HIS JUDGMENT ON THE RICH MAN



"The time came when the <u>beggar</u> died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The <u>rich</u> <u>man</u> also died and was buried. In Hades, <u>where</u> <u>he was in torment</u>, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side." LK. 16:22-23

We know that God is very patient with us and He does

not want anyone to be lost without Jesus. We are selfish,

stubborn, lustful, rebellious, prideful and have a sinful nature that if we don't put it on the Cross by faith, has great potential to sin even more. Many Christians like to take chances and like to play with sin and gamble with their salvation. They believe they can play with the devil and that the serpent will not hurt them. But the Bible says that satan is a destroyer and a murderer. (Assassin)

I believe that the Rich Man had knowledge of the Word of God but he rejected Jesus because he wanted to live his life without God.

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and <u>lived in luxury every day.</u>" LK. 16:19

He heard the message of salvation and also the message of the place of torment for the ones that rejected Jesus as Savior. He took his chances in living without Jesus and had the mentality that before he would die that he would repent and accept Jesus as his Savior. But the devil tricked him and he never had a chance to repent while he was living in sin. He believed the lie of the devil that he could repent when he was ready. God gave him plenty of time to get right with Him and to walk a godly life. God is a just God and will deal with you so that you will come to your senses and get right, but He has a limit.

"But thou, O Lord, <u>art a God merciful and gracious</u>, Slow to anger, and abundant in lovingkindness and truth." Ps. 86:15

The Bible tells us that God's patience ran out with the rich man and he died without Jesus in his heart. He was lost forever to burn in hell.

"The rich man also died and was buried. **In Hades, where** <u>he was in torment</u>, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side." LK. 16:23

Today many lost souls and backsliders are living in sin and indulging in sin thinking that God will just allow it with no consequences. They have heard the Word of God but continue to take their chances in the world. They continue rejecting the dealings of God with stubborn hearts. But the Bible warns us on the danger of resisting Him.

"Whoever remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed —without remedy." Proverbs 29:1

This happened to Noah's generation and to Sodom and Gomorrah. God was patient with them but then He had to judge them when they rejected His Salvation.

"For if God did not spare **angels** when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment; if he did not spare the **ancient world** when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others; if he condemned the cities of **Sodom and Gomorrah** by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; 2Pet 2:4-6

Today, many people have been lost like the rich man because they never responded to God's dealings and warnings and continue living in sin. They died without Jesus in their hearts.

THE PATIENCE OF GOD AND JUDGMENT ON THIS PRESENT WORLD

We must preach the Gospel to all lost souls so that they might believe in Jesus Christ and be saved. We are living the last days and it is our duty to win souls for God's kingdom. Jesus said that the coming of Jesus would be like the days of Noah. God has been patient for over 2,000 years and Jesus might come at any time!

"For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man." Matt. 24:38-39

Our duty as Christians is to preach Jesus to our generation like Noah did to his generation and there will be no excuse that no one warned them when the Rapture happens. Today is the day of salvation for every lost soul but if they reject Jesus and they stay behind when the Church is Raptured; their judgment is the Great 7 Year Tribulation



under the power of the anti-Christ. I believe that many that stay behind will be destroyed by the anti-Christ and if they don't receive the mark of the beast, they will have their

heads cut-off. This is their judgment from God for rejecting His Son Jesus. Dying without Jesus and being thrown to the place of torment. Then after the 1,000-year reign of Jesus on earth, being judge at the Great White Throne Judgment and being thrown into the lake of fire.

"Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were <u>judged</u> according to what they had done <u>as recorded in the</u> books.'

The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and <u>each</u> <u>person was judged according to what they had done</u>. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. <u>The lake of fire is the second death</u>. Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire." Rev. 20:11-15

Everyone that was judged and thrown into the lake of fire had tasted the patience, love, mercy and compassion of God, but still rejected Jesus as their personal Savior.



Today if you are lost and you don't know Jesus as your personal Savior repent and accept Him into your heart.

Today if you are backsliding and you are living in sin repent and come back to Jesus before it is too late and you become like the Rich man who

took chances and was lost.

Today if you are a lukewarm Christian and you are playing with sin like Samson, repent because what happened to Samson can happen to you.

Samson almost crosses over that line of no return!

God tells us in Isa. 1:18 says, "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool."