

Week 9 - “Psalm 94 – The God Who Judges”

The Aim of the Session

At the heart of all we believe is the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. God has dealt with our sin once and for all and we have the promise of eternal life in God’s presence. In order to appreciate just how great God’s love is, though, we must also appreciate just how great Jesus’ sacrifice for us was.

- **Welcome**

Which TV Judge (Strictly, Dancing on Ice, or anything else) do you admire or really not like and why?

- **Worship**

What is on your mind as you meet? Share the things that have brought you joy, things that have been a frustration, things that you are challenged with ... share them all together. Read Psalm 121 and give thanks that God knows where we are and what we face and his enduring love will never fail us.

- **Word**

- ❖ What makes you angry?
- ❖ How angry do you get?
- ❖ How would you describe “righteous anger”?
- ❖ Do you ever get angry like that?
- ❖ How angry do you get then?
- ❖ Does anything happen as a result?

Psalm 94 echoes some of the things we looked at in Psalm 90 but looks at judgement as a result of God’s anger at our sin.

Read Psalm 94:1-2

- What sort of God does the Psalmist describe there?
- Is it a kind of description we feel comfortable with?
- Why? Why not?
- What is the Psalmist longing for?

Read Psalm 94:3-7

- List the things which the Psalmist sees in the “wicked”
- Do we see these things around us today? If so, where?
- How do they make us feel?
- Do they cause us to respond in any way? How?

Read Psalm 94:14-15, 22

- What promises does the Psalmist hang on to?
- What difference does that make?

- ❖ Compare these verses with Matthew 7:3-5, Luke 6:37, John 8:7, Romans 3:23
- ❖ How does human judgement differ from God's?
- ❖ What criteria are laid down for anyone called upon to judge in this world?
- ❖ How can anyone live up to that criteria?

Read Psalm 90:11 and Romans 3:23-24. As we saw last week, God's hatred of our sin is so immense and yet his love is equally immense. God's wrath is matched by his love and his desire to resolve the problem. When we stand in the shadow of the Cross, God sees Jesus taking our punishment and his wrath is dealt with, once and for all.

Read Matthew 25:34-41

- What is the difference between the Sheep and the Goats in this parable?
- Do the sheep and goats realize they are who they are? Why? Why not?
- On what basis is judgment made?
- Do you think that is that a fair basis? Why?
- What does it say about the way God wants us to live?

- **Works**

Read these Words of Assurance and appreciate how great God's wrath is, how great his love is, how great a sacrifice Jesus made – and how great a gift our salvation is. Give thanks for what Jesus did for you!

John 3:36 - The one who believes in the Son has eternal life. The one who rejects the Son will not see life, but God's wrath remains on him.

Colossians 2:13 - And even though you were dead in your transgressions and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, he nevertheless made you alive with him, having forgiven all your transgressions.

John 5:24 - "I tell you the solemn truth, the one who hears my message and believes the one who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned, but has crossed over from death to life.

Romans 8:1 – There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 5:1- Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you are saved through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so that no one can boast.

John 1:12 - But to all who have received him—those who believe in his name—he has given the right to become God's children



Next Time ...

Psalms: Seeking God Through Honesty and Reality

10 – Psalm 96 “The God Who Is King”