

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Seven

Complete Punishment of Sin

God's punishment of sin is not in part. God punishes sin to its just desert. We read in Heb. 2:2 "For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward." Rom. 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death." Sin requires death. Anything less is not complete. God judges sin completely.

When God judged the world before the flood, he alerted Noah to the timing of the promised flood seven days before the flood actually came: Gen. 7:4 "For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth." Just as God told Noah the flood came seven days later: "10 And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth."

The sentence of death upon all in whose nostrils was the breath of life came because of the wickedness of man. It came upon all but those who were promised beforehand by God to go into the ark to save alive. All died except those whom God promised to save alive.

Additionally, when God promised the children of Israel that he would give them the land of Canaan, they were to destroy all the inhabitants of seven nations. These seven nations of people had become so corrupt in their living that God promised their destruction. Deu. 7:1 "When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou; 2 And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor show mercy unto them."

The above points us to the fact that God's judgment of sin is complete. Unless all sins are completely judged, then God fails to be just. The sins of the elect are judged in Christ and the sins of the non-elect are judged in the lake of fire judgment

detailed for us in the 20th chapter of the book of Revelation. Therefore, God's judgment of sin is perfect and his justice is complete.