

Readings

Scripture

²The Lord is a jealous and avenging God; the Lord is avenging and wrathful; the Lord takes vengeance on his adversaries and keeps wrath for his enemies. ³The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, and the Lord will by no means clear the guilty. His way is in whirlwind and storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet. ⁴He rebukes the sea and makes it dry; he dries up all the rivers; Bashan and Carmel wither; the bloom of Lebanon withers. ⁵The mountains quake before him; the hills melt; the earth heaves before him, the world and all who dwell in it. ⁶Who can stand before his indignation? Who can endure the heat of his anger? His wrath is poured out like fire, and the rocks are broken into pieces by him. ⁷The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.

Nahum 1:2-7 (English Standard Version)

Reflection

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 23. What offices doth Christ execute as our redeemer?

A. Christ, as our redeemer, executes the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.

Q. 24. How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

A. Christ executes the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

Westminster Confession of Faith

CHAPTER 8 - Of Christ the Mediator

1. It pleased God, in his eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, his only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, Priest, and King, the Head and Savior of his church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world: unto whom he did from all eternity give a people, to be his seed, and to be by him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

Sermon Outline

The Character of One Who Is Worthy to Bring Judgment

The Grace of Judgment

Nahum 1:2-7

Matt Uldrich

**Does God have the power to judge?
Of course He does.**

Look at His character. (Nahum 1:2)

Look at His power in nature. (Nahum 1:3-6)

- in winds and storms, in rains and droughts, on land and sea
 - who can stand before His power?
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Nahum describes the fall of the city with two pictures. (Nahum 1:8-13)

- a great flood of waters that sweeps everything away
 - a fire of dry thorns that burns like stubble
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Even in judgment, there is grace! (Nahum 1:14-15)

Reflection Questions

"In the infinite wisdom of the Lord of all the earth, each event falls with exact precision into its proper place in the unfolding of His divine plan. Nothing, however small, however strange, occurs without His ordering, or without its particular fitness for its place in the working out of His purpose; and the end of all shall be the manifestation of His glory, and the accumulation of His praise."
--BB Warfield

Abraham Kuyper, a Dutch theologian and prime minister once said, "There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine!'"

R.C. Sproul put it this way:

If there is one molecule in this universe running around loose outside the scope or the sphere of God's divine control and authority and power, then that single maverick molecule may be the grain of sand that changes the entire course of human history that blocks God from keeping the promises he has made to his people.

- How does pondering God's sovereignty affect how you view judgment?
- How do the above quotes inform the difficulties you are facing in your life today?
- In what ways have you used anger in an unhealthy way? How might you repent of your use of unrighteous anger?
- As you think about your week ahead, to whom may you bring good news and offer peace?