

Text: 2 Peter 2:4-9
Topic: Judgment. Salvation.
Series: Book of 2 Peter

Pacific Coast Church

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Pastor Mike

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Hell, Fire, & Floods



A New Perspective on the Disturbing Parts of the Bible

2:4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment; 5 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; 6 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; 7 and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men 8 (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)— 9 if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment, while continuing their punishment. (NIV)

1. Be _____ (v.4)

2. Be _____ (v.5)

3. Be _____ (vv.6-9)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. It is recommended that you take time this week to write out your response to each of these questions. This will help to drive home the point of today's message and will help you apply the principles to your life situation. These questions are also used as the basis of discussion for many of our small group studies that meet throughout the week. For times and locations of PCC's small group gatherings call the church office (949-489-2600).

1. Many people these days concede that God is holy, but they have trouble understanding why God would *have* to punish people who are not. How do you respond to that question?

When you think about your own life (past and present), and then you ponder God's perfection and absolute purity, how do you feel? (Think this through without the benefit of the cross!)

How different are those feelings from the ones you acquire when you compare your life with the lives of other people. Why is it so important that God *alone* be our standard of comparison?

2. Read Ezekiel 33:11 and 2 Peter 3:9. How does this help balance the characterization often made of the "vengeful God" of the Bible?

Write out a response to God for providing Noah's ark, then and now. What does the ark tell you about God?

To put it in terms of Genesis 7, it is critically important that you know that you have really entered the ark! Are you sure? If not, get in it now by repenting of your sins and placing your full and complete confidence in the life, substitutionary death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

3. According to 2 Peter 2:7-8 Lot struggled to live righteously in an unrighteous place. How are you doing at this? In what areas do you struggle?

What will you do to insure that these areas of struggle don't turn into areas of defeat in your quest to live righteously?