



Pastor Scott Archer 02.11.2018*
Central Congregational Church
“For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors”
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Warning Shot

Revelation 8:6-9:21

Series: The Return of the King – The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Central Passage

Revelation 9:20–21 (ESV) — **20** The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, **21** nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Central Thought: The often bizarre, frequently confusing, and sometimes offensive creatures and activities of Revelation serve as a warning to the idolaters, fornicators and oppressors of the world and an encouragement to the faithful and the oppressed, that God’s righteous judgment is imminent and inevitable.

Regarding God’s Judgment

❖ God’s impending judgment is just and unavoidable!

Romans 1:18–23 (ESV) — **18** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. **19** For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. **20** For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. **21** For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **22** Claiming to be wise, they became fools, **23** and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. (See also Rom. 1:18-32)

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❖ God’s impending judgment is tempered by his mercy!

2 Peter 3:8–10 (ESV) — **8** But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. **9** The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. **10** But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Luke 15:3–7 (ESV) — **3** So he told them this parable: **4** “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? **5** And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. **6** And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ **7** Just so, **I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.**

❖ God’s impending judgment demands a decision from us!

Hebrews 3:12–15 (ESV) — **12** Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. **13** But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. **14** For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. **15** As it is said, “**Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.**” (See also Hebrews 3:1-19)

Mark 1:14–15 (ESV) — **14** Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, **15** and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; **repent and believe in the gospel.**”

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