



Discussion Questions • Abbotsford

Title of Sermon: The Dread and Delight of God's Judgment

Passage: Joel 2:1-11 NIV

Intro -

1. Do you struggle with the idea that God is a judge and there will be a day when he will judge the world (along with every person in it)?
2. What are the dangers of overemphasizing the judgment of God? What are the dangers of under-emphasizing it? Which of these do you think we are more prone to do in the church today?
3. Do you think that we should talk about God's judgment more or less?

Sermon Points -

1. The Dread of God's Judgment
 1. When you read Joel 2:1-11, what sticks out to you about the judgment of God that is coming on Israel?
 2. Why would God judge Israel so completely? Does he have the right to do that (See Deuteronomy 28 for some background to the agreement God has with Israel)?
 3. Isaiah 63 describes God's judgment in more gory detail. Do passages like that strike you as odd given how you understand God? How should our view of God change in light of passages regarding his violence in judgment?
2. The Delight of God's Judgment
 1. What are the barriers to us "delighting" in the fact that God is a judge who will execute his judgment on the wicked?
 - a. Is it odd to use the word "delight" in the same sentence as God's judgment?
 - b. Do you think God will delight in his judgment? Why or why not?
 2. How does God's judgment bring hope to the oppressed?
 3. What do you think of the idea that without a belief in God's judgment, our understanding of God's love is muted? Is that true or false? Why?
 4. How should we respond to the judgment of God? What solution has God provided so that we need not bear the brunt of it?



Wrap Up and Prayer

From your discussion, what resonated with you individually or as a group? Was there anything not discussed that stuck out to you from the sermon? Pray for each other along with other requests.

Benediction - Romans 11:33, 36 ESV

"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen."