

# The Gospel According to Luke

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## **GOD'S RIGHTEOUS JUDGEMENT**

## **PART 9**

Waiting on Him

**READ GENESIS 18:16-33**

### INTRODUCTION

*There are many today who think that God's judgement will delay forever. Some hope that it will delay forever so that they will not be required to stand before Him at the judgement throne. This is wishful thinking as everyone (saved and not saved) will stand before Him in judgement. For those who believe, we will stand before Him at what is called the "Bema Seat" and receive judgement to reward. For those who reject Jesus as their Savior, they will go before Him at the "Great White Throne" judgement and will be judged according to their works and will be found wanting. This is a scary place to find oneself in.*

*Here in Genesis 18 we see that Jesus is very patient in His judgement. He does not enjoy judging people and condemning them to the punishment that they have earned. Abraham deals with Him in this moment and finds out that He is a gracious God that does not judge those who are found to be righteous. What is encouraging about this is that Abraham kept asking for grace and the Lord continued to give it. This is not Him changing His mind or Abraham convincing Him of something. The Lord does not judge without just cause and will not punish those who may be found righteous. This is true to this day but it is key to note that Paul reminds us that there is none righteous and without Christ, we are lost to our flesh. (Romans 3:10-12, Psalm 14:1-3, Psalm 53:1-3)*

*Jesus will be coming again to exact His judgement on the entire earth. He has been very patient with humanity for a very long time but, eventually the judgement will come for all humankind. What is a mistake is to think that we can "get away" with sin and not expect to eventually have to stand before Him. It is far better to repent and follow Christ here and now than to think that you can stand up in His court where perfection is the standard. We have all fallen short of the glory and the standard of God which is what makes Jesus' sacrifice so needed. (Romans 3:23) He is patient (2 Peter 3:9) which is encouraging but note that He is patient in order that we might come to repentance. Repentance is key.*

## THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

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### *DISCUSSION QUESTIONS*

1. Why do you think we tend to assume God's judgement will delay? Is His patience a good thing or a bad thing? Why?
2. Why is it such a bad idea to think that we can stand up to God's scrutiny? How can we help others see the danger of this mindset?
3. Why do you think the Lord showed patience with Abraham in this passage? What might He have been trying to teach Abraham through this conversation?
4. Is there something in your life that you are hiding from Jesus thinking that He will not judge you? What is stopping you from laying it at His feet and asking for forgiveness?
5. Read 2 Peter 3:9. What directive do we see in this verse concerning Jesus' patience with us and how we should be using that time? What does it mean to repent of sin?

### *WRAP UP*

Jesus has shown humanity much patience. This will come to an end at some point but, while we have time on earth we must be pointing people to Him and towards repentance. This is the reason why God has put us here on earth. We are to be the heralds of Christ's message of salvation to the whole world while we can. The judgement is coming and we do not want to see our friends, family, or even our enemies fall into the hands of a God who will judge them according to their works.