

THE LORD KNOWETH HOW...
II PETER 2:4-9; text v9

Introduction:

- A. God is not delaying judgment of the wicked.
 - 1. Judgment.....lingereth not. Inactive v3.
 - 2. damnation.....slumbereth not. To nod, to drowse.
 - 3. Every purpose of God is on time.

- B. God knows how to accomplish His purposes.
 - 1. He knows how to deliver the righteous.
 - 2. He knows how to reserve the unjust for punishment.

- C. Peter cites historical evidence of these facts.

I. GOD SPARED NOT THE ANGELS THAT SINNED. V4

- A. Angels sinned...
 - 1. Lucifer's desire. Isaiah 14:12-
 - 2. Some angels listened.

- B. God cast them down.
 - 1. "Hurled them down to tartarus."
 - 2. All fallen angels not in hell.

- C. God is holding them for their ultimate doom.
 - 1. They are already judged.
 - 2. Final doom is in a Lake of Fire.

II. GOD SPARED NOT THE OLD WORLD SYSTEM. V5

- a. God did not destroy the earth, but its system.
 - 1. He brought a flood of water.
 - 2. He destroyed the "ungodly."

- B. God kept Noah.
 - 1. A preacher of righteousness.
 - 2. Seven others were spared.

page 19

C. These events are a figure.

1. I Peter 3:18-22.

2. "Save yourselves," said Peter. Acts 2:40-41.

III. GOD SPARED NOT SODOM AND GOMORRHA. V6

A. God warned Sodom and Gomorrhah.

1. Only ten righteous people would preserve them.

2. Genesis 18:32.

B. God destroyed them.

1. "He turned them into ashes."

2. He condemned them to extinction.

C. This is an example to wicked men.

1. "Making them an object lesson for godless men of future days."

2. You had better listen San Francisco! Little Rock!

D. God delivered Lot. v7

1. Lot was a just man.

2. He was a troubled man. v8

3. This seems to be a different man than the one we know from Genesis.

a. He was righteous, He was just, He was vexed.

b. vex = to examine or scrutinize with words or by torture, to inflict pain.

IV. GOD KNOWS HOW... V9

a. How to "deliver the godly out of temptation."

1. Noah. = worst world.

2. Lot. = worst city.

B. How to punish the wicked.

1. "to keep the wicked, who are now suffering punishment, in readiness for the day of judgment"

2. "be not deceived, God is not mocked."