

God's "Know How"

What is a Generalist?

- What is a specialist?
 - One who devotes himself to a particular branch of study or profession
- Generalist – may be “Jack-of-all-trades, master of none” . . . or polymath
- God is Specialist – Generalist

2 Peter 2 illustrates
God’s “know how”

2 Peter 2:1-3

- 1: Warning! Warning!
- 2: Many casualties; much error. We need knowledge
- 3: Money motive ... delay

Not idle: not sitting idly by
... no idle threat

Not slumber: nod, *become*
drowsy, doze. Is.5:27

I. God Knows How To Judge The Wicked

4: angels

Heavenly beings? Earthly messengers?

- “Sinned”: Jd.6
 - Argues from greater to lesser
 - Sinful angels are not saved by . . .

Rank

Power

Privilege /
Dignity

- “Cast them down to hell”: confine in Tartarus
- “Reserved for judgment”: keep, hold, preserve. Jd.6. Mt.8:29. 1 Pt.1:4.

5: ancient world

Sinners not protected by great numbers.

“Surely this many can’t be wrong!”

“You and your little group...?”

- “Did not spare”: evil generation could not sin with impunity . . . even if almost all die.

Evil will be punished, even if only one family survives. Mt.7:13-14.

- “Bringing in flood on world of ungodly”: irreverent, impious; living without regard for religious belief or practice.

6-9: Sodom and Gomorrah

Gn.13:10-11

“Abundance of earthly blessings are a sign of God’s approval.”

“It’s my body; I can do what I want to do.”

- “Turn to ashes”: Dio Cassius
- “Condemned them to destruction”: Guilty!
 - God condemns what many defend.
- “Making them an example”:
 - “Let me give you a sample...”
 - Jd.7. Ro.9:29.

I. God Knows How To Judge The Wicked

II. God Knows How To
Deliver The Righteous

5: saved Noah

Through no fault of his own, surrounded by world of heathens; needed God's deliverance

- Remained faithful – surrounded by sinners.
1 Pt.3:20-21 . . . 4:1-4.
- Preacher of righteousness – concerned about sinners.

6-9: delivered Lot

Through own fault (choices),
surrounded by ungodly.

[Why choose to live in Sodom?]

7: God calls him “righteous” (3x).

7: He did not become indifferent to sin.

- “**Oppressed**”: distressed, with implication of being worn out by the experience.
- Security: ability to be shocked at sin.

8: “grieved by sin”: torture, distress, harass.
Continual action.

6-9: delivered Lot

8: “grieved by sin”: torture, distress, harass.

Sin should ‘always’ torment us

1. Sin in world: Gn.19:9
2. Sin in church: 1 Co.5:1...2
3. Sin in self: Mt.11:21-24

Lessons

1. Deceitfulness of 'greener grass' (8). Gn.13
 - a. Lot thought he was moving to paradise
 - b. Lazarus could have envied the rich
 - c. Adulterers, thieves, backbiters...

Lessons

1. Deceitfulness of 'greener grass' (8). Gn.13

2. Being a Christian is no insurance against trials in life (9).

a. Noah: 120 years labor

b. Lot: years of self-affliction, family decline, death, loss because of foolish choices

Lessons

1. Deceitfulness of 'greener grass' (8). Gn.13
2. Being a Christian is no insurance against trials in life (9).
3. Forgiveness does not erase consequences of sin (9).

Lot can be saved.
What about Mrs. Lot?
...daughters?

Lessons

1. Deceitfulness of 'greener grass' (8). Gn.13
2. Being a Christian is no insurance against trials in life (9).
3. Forgiveness does not erase consequences of sin (9).
4. Sinners appear to prosper now, but are under a fearful sentence (9). 2 Pt.2:12

Lessons

1. Deceitfulness of 'greener grass' (8). Gn.13
2. Being a Christian is no insurance against trials in life (9).
3. Forgiveness does not erase consequences of sin (9).
4. Sinners appear to prosper now, but are under a fearful sentence (9).
5. The unjust are reserved (kept) under punishment (now) awaiting Day of Judgment. Lk.16

Lessons

1. Deceitfulness of 'greener grass' (8). Gn.13
2. Being a Christian is no insurance against trials in life (9).
3. Forgiveness does not erase consequences of sin (9).
4. Sinners appear to prosper now, but are under a fearful sentence (9).
5. The unjust are reserved (kept) under (now) punishment now awaiting Day of Judgment.
6. Remember:

No matter what others do, I am responsible to God for myself.
No excuse will justify my sins.

Lessons

1. Deceitfulness of 'greener grass' (8). Gn.13
2. Being a Christian is no insurance against trials in life (9).
3. Forgiveness does not erase consequences of sin (9).
4. Sinners appear to prosper now, but are under a fearful sentence (9).
5. The unjust are reserved (kept) under (now) punishment now awaiting Day of Judgment.

6. Remember:

Even if I could rightly blame others for my sins, it would not remove me from the ditch.