THE INESCAPABLE JUDGMENT OF GOD AGAINST SIN
(The Despair of Sin)

May 26, 2007
That God May Be All in All

We all know that we have been redeemed from sin and its consequences by our Lord Jesus Christ. But what if we weren't redeemed? How would sin affect our lives? How could we get ourselves out of the immense despair of sin? What would happen to us when the Lord returns? And what about those who aren't redeemed from sin?

God is Judge over everything and everyone. His judgment is just:

1. Ge 18:25b ***"Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"***
2. De 32:4 ***"He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he."***
3. Ps 7:11 ***"God is a righteous judge, Yea, a God that hath indignation every day."*** (ASV)
4. Ps 33:5 ***"He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD."***
5. Ps 37:28 ***"For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off."***
6. Ps 89:14 ***"Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face."***
7. Ps 96:13 ***"Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth."***
8. Ps 98:9 ***"Before the LORD; for he cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity."***
9. Ec 3:17 ***"I said in mine heart, God shall judge the righteous and the wicked: for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work."***
10. Ec 12:13-14 ¶ ***"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."***
11. Jer 9:24 ***"but let him that glorieth glory in this, that he hath understanding, and knoweth me, that I am Jehovah who exerciseth lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith Jehovah."***
12. Jer 33:15 ***"In those days, and at that time, will I cause a Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David*** (a prophecy of the coming Christ); ***and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land."***

The book of Romans further helps illustrate the inescapable judgment of God: ***"thou condemnest thyself*** (2:1),***" "the judgement of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.*** (2:2),***" "that thou shalt escape the judgement of God?*** (2:3),***" "But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.*** (2:5)***" "In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.*** (2:16)***"***

Heb 2:2 RSV ***"For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution,"***

Can anyone escape the all-encompassing judgment of God?

1. Isa. 59:2 ***"Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you that He will not hear."*** (***"face"*** see Ps 67:1)
2. Psm. 38:3-4 ***"my iniquities have gone over my head, as a heavy burden they are too heavy for me."***
3. Lev. 5:17 ***"And if a soul sin, and commit any of these things which are forbidden to be done by the commandments of the LORD; though he wist (knew) it not, yet is he guilty, and shall bear his iniquity."***
4. Num. 32:23 ***"and be sure your sin will find you out."***
5. Eze 18:20 ASV ***"The soul that sinneth, it shall die: the son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him."***

Nobody can escape the penalty of sin. Sin's effects are immense, and consequently overtake those caught in the snare of sin. In the following section watch for the relation of sin with destruction and despair:

Heb 2:2 RSV ***"For if the message declared by angels was valid and <u>every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution,"</u>***

1. Jer 30:15 ASV ***"Why criest thou for thy hurt? thy pain is incurable: for the greatness of thine iniquity, because thy sins were increased, I have done these things unto thee."***
2. Eze 33:10b ASV ***"Our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we pine away in them; how then can we live?"***
3. Isa. 38, esp. v. 17b ***"…thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back."***
4. Psm. 103: 3: ***"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases"***
5. John 5:5-15, esp. v. 14: ***"Behold, thou art made whole*** (of a 38 year long infirmity wherein he was impotent to walk); ***sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee."***
6. Mark 2:1-12: (vs 10-11) ***"But that ye may know that the Son of man hath authority on earth to forgive sins*** (he saith to the sick of the palsy), ***I say unto thee, Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thy house."***
7. Psm. 31:10 ***"For my life is spent with sorrow And my years with sighing; My strength has failed because of my iniquity, And my body has wasted away."***
8. Psm. 38:3 ***"There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your indignation; There is no health in my bones because of my sin."***
9. Psm. 38:5 ***"My wounds grow foul and fester because of my folly."***
10. Psm. 41:4 ***"As for me, I said, 'O LORD, be gracious to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You."***
11. Isa 33:24 ASV ***"And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity."***
12. Jer. 14:19b-20 ***"…there is no healing for us? We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of healing, and, behold, dismay! 20 We acknowledge, O Jehovah, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers; for we have sinned against thee."***
13. Jer 30:12-15 ASV ***"For thus saith Jehovah, Thy hurt is incurable, and thy wound grievous. 13 There is none to plead thy cause, that thou mayest be bound up: thou hast no healing medicines. 14 All thy lovers have forgotten thee; they seek thee not: for I have wounded thee with the wound of an enemy, with the chastisement of a cruel one, for the greatness of thine iniquity, because thy sins were increased. 15 Why criest thou for thy***

hurt? thy pain is incurable: for the greatness of thine iniquity, because thy sins were increased, I have done these things unto thee."

14. Ex. 12:13 ***"The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. "***
15. 2 Chr. 7:14 ***"If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."***
16. Deut. 28:15ff gives us a long list of consequences of sins, called ***"curses."*** These ***"curses"*** are pronouncements of judgment against those who break covenant with God, as in Gen. 3:14 & 3:17.

MANKIND FINDS IN HIMSELF NO WAY OUT:
Psm. 49:7-9 With the wealth of the world, no man can redeem his brother (or himself).
Rom. 3:9 ***"…they are all under sin."***
Rom. 3:23 ***"For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God."***
Rom. 5:6 When we were helpless (to reconcile ourselves), Christ died for the ungodly.
Eph. 2:12 Apart from Christ we had NO hope and were without God.

Apart from the Christ, the conditions of our lives were deep in despair. Yet, this was only the beginning of sin's retribution. In II Thess. 1:8-9 we see that the Lord Jesus Christ shall be revealed from heaven ***"In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from*** (away from) ***the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;"*** Wow! This is the righteous judgment of God against disobedience. To think that we were among so many others who will be forever separated from the presence of the Lord. According to chapter 2, verse 10b and following, this is ***"because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned*** (judged, condemned) ***who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."***

We were buried in despair, dead in our trespasses and sins (Eph. 2:1) with no way out until the promised Christ redeemed us. Those who accept God's terms, believing on the Lord Jesus Christ and his final payment for sin, prove that ***"God is just and the justifier of him who has faith in Jesus."*** Rom. 3:26. God's master stroke of all the ages was Christ's substitutionary death for our sins.

> ***and he*** (Jesus Christ) ***is the expiation*** (judicially satisfactory punishment) ***for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.*** 1Jo 2:2 RSV

Jesus Christ suffered the punishment due to every one of our sins, as well as those of the whole world. This is God's righteous judgment against sin. One judicial act at Calvary covered it all; every sin of every individual for all time.