

## Here Comes The Judge

### I. Slide1 Announce:

A. Slide2 *Movin' on up*, this Sun (to their next grade level for the coming school year)

B. Prayer:

### II. Slide3 Intro: Here Comes The Judge

A. Many people have **allergies** to various things: nuts, gluten, lactose, bee stings. **But** many of us feel allergic to *the judgment of God*.

1. We want to stay as far away from it as possible. **And** if we do consider it, we tend to quickly pass over it, focusing instead on **Christ's victory on the cross**.

2. God's **judgment** is not something most Christians want to think about. *We don't put verses with God's judgment on sticky notes, we don't try to commit these Scripture verses to memory, and most of us would not choose for me to preach on this subject.*

B. So **why** is Gods wrath and judgment **so important**? (*judge/judgment* 467 x's) (*wrath* 215)

1. Imagine following a God who wasn't just? We cry out for justice.

2. That's why *the highest rated shows* on TV are what? crime shows. Law and Order, FBI, Chicago PD [*i.e.* Hank Voight justice, *cage downstairs*]

C. If God didn't have *wrath* towards **sin** He wouldn't be a God of love. *How could He allow sin to go unpunished?*

1. The juxtaposition of **God's wrath** met in 1 person on the cross at Calvary. It's where God's **love** and **justice** met. [*justa/next - pose/place, place next to*]

2. **Gods justice** demanded *a response to sin*, His **love** provided *the solution*. **Jesus is the answer for God's wrath.**

D. If me or my family is wronged, *I want justice*. Can't God demand the same?

### III. Slide4 I'VE NEVER BEEN SURPRISED BY GOD'S JUDGMENT, BUT I'M STILL STUNNED BY HIS GRACE (1-10) (Max Lucado quote)

A. (1) This is the congregation speaking to God, note *we*.

1. For emphasis the word *thanks* is repeated. And they are *thanking Him*, not just for the works He *does*, *but* that they are constant reminders of the *love* of God, the *mercy* of God, and the *wisdom* of God.

B. (2) *God is in Control* - He controls *The Timing (set time)*. *The Criteria (judge w/ equity)*. *The Universal Reaction (When the earth totters, and all its inhabitants)*. *And God has the Right to Control the Final Judgment which is Derived from Creation (It is I who keep steady its pillars)*.

C. He's not only the judge, *but* He judges *at the set time, at the right time*.

1. Slide5 G. Campbell Morgan, *"This reveals the time and the method of the divine activity. His time is the set time. That is, He acts, never too soon and never too late. It is a great word."*

a) So are you upset at God that He brought his discipline *too quickly*? Or are you upset that He isn't bringing his judgment or discipline *soon enough*?

D. (3) *Totter / pillars* - to melt, dissolve, become soft or liquid.

1. Or it is God who keeps it firm, *steady*. The pillars representing the foundations of the earth. 1 Sam. 2:8 *For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world.*

2. *Pillars* - In addition to creating the world, God also maintains it.

a) People in *the ancient Near East* viewed the world as a large platform held up by pillars.

b) *Pillars typically represent boundaries*. Solomon's temple featured 2 free-standing pillars on the portico, serving as a *boundary* to the holy place. IVP

c) It is more likely than, it is speaking of the cosmic *boundaries* of the earth separating *the living* and *the dead*.

E. *Selah* - pause, or rest in music. *Take time to Think deeply about what I said/sung.*

F. (4,5) *Horn* - this shows the expression of the animal's strength and power.

1. So lifting your horn on high is like shaking your fist in God's face.

G. **Haughty neck**, stiff neck, came from an animal plowing who resisted the yoke.

H. **Pride, the #1 sin.**

1. **Slide6** Max Lucado, *When you are **full** of yourself, God cannot fill you. But when you **empty** yourself, God has a useful vessel!* [Book: *Cure for the Common Life*]

2. **The apostle Paul**, referred to himself as *the least of the apostles*. 1 Cor.15:9

3. **King David** wrote no psalm celebrating his *victory over Goliath*, but he did write a public poem of *penitence* confessing his **sin** with Bathsheba.

4. **Joseph** the quiet father of **Jesus**. *Rather than make a name for himself, he made a home for Christ.* And he was given the privilege of naming the son, *and he called his name **Jesus*** (Mt.1:25). Joseph gave up his name, so **Jesus** let Joseph say *his*. Do you think Joseph ever regretted his choice?

I. (7) Ever heard the dad quote, *I brought you into this world & I can take you out.*

1. **Slide7** What a rebuke to our pride. Jn.3:27 *No one can receive anything unless God gives it from heaven.* 1 Pet.5:6 *So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor.* [just before that he said, *God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble*].

J. **God lifts up** - do you trust him in that? In your job, in your ministry?

1. *"**promotions** in any direction, to positions of **credit, influence, or consideration, are the gift and the work of God."*** F.B. Meyer

K. (8) **Foaming wine** (from the process of *fermentation*) - **Picture God's hand with a full glass of wine of judgment. Making them drink it all without stopping.**

1. You've heard of waterboarding. I picture wine-boarding here.

2. **Read** Rev.14:9-11 (then see Grapes of wrath. 14-16 **vs.**17-20)

a) *The Battle Hymn of the Republic. Mine eyes have seen the glory of **the coming of the Lord** (19:14); **He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of***

*wrath are stored (ch.14 & 19:15). He hath loosed the fateful lightening of His terrible swift sword (read 19:15). His truth is marching on (19:11).*

L. (10) All the horns of the wicked I will cut off - I saw this in Tanzania (bull, wire saw)

1. And as He will cut off the pride and strength and power of the wicked, He will on the flipside lift up the righteous.

M. Slide8a 3 WAYS PSALM 75 POINTS TO JESUS:

1. Jesus is near to us (1) for your name is near.
2. Slide8b Jesus is the one who drank the cup of judgment (in Gethsemane). Mt.26:39 *My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.*
  - a) He did this so we would not have to drink it.
  - b) It was as if Jesus said, *Yes Father it's for the wicked, let me drink it! And he drank it down to the bottom for us ... there on the cross.*
3. Slide8c Jesus is the judge who will cut off the wicked and exalt the righteous.
  - a) We see this in Matthew 25, the sheep and the goat judgment.

N. God, why didn't you allow *the gun to jam*. Why didn't you let *my rapist have a heart attack*. Why didn't you stop \_\_\_\_\_ in my life?

1. God will judge, He said, *all the horns or power of the wicked I will cut off.*

O. The Good News of the Gospel is about *judgment*, right? Yes, the judgment of *sin*. You really can't have or understand *love* without it.

P. Keywords: judgment, thankfulness.