

Behold the Judge

Psalm 9:1-20

Halifax: 26 July 2009

Introduction:

Next week, we will begin a new section in our sermon series from Isaiah.

- We will come to that great section that extends from chapter 13 to chapter 27.
 - In this section, the prophet describes what is going happen to each of the nations that are in some way associated with Israel...
 - He tells us the judgements that will befall them in the days ahead.
- And he does this with such accuracy and such detail that unbelieving Bible scholars can't handle it.
 - They fly into a frenzy and start to panic at the very thought that a prophet would be able to explain the future with such precision!
 - Because if he could, it would mean that that prophet's claim that he is speaking the words of God must be true!
 - And these unbelieving scholars can't accept that!
 - They are naturalists who cannot think outside their own box!
 - They have to figure out some way to explain things without God.
 - And so they consult and they labour and they speculate and they theorise and they write and they explain and argue with restless zeal that Isaiah could not have possibly written all this stuff!
 - They insist that someone pretending to be Isaiah had to come along at a later time and insert all these predictive prophecies into Isaiah's writings...
 - And that this same crafty chap (or maybe another one who is like him) added the entirety of chapter 40 to chapter 66.
 - They are so excited about this theory that they accept it as conclusive...
 - even though the only evidence they have for it is that Isaiah prophesied things with deadly accuracy that were future to him...
 - and of course, from a naturalistic perspective—that would be impossible!
 - They know that they could not prophesy like this,
 - so they are quite sure that Isaiah could not have done it either...

- These things had to have been written later...
 - by some strange man they call “Deutero-Isaiah” who wrote things that bring glory to God and that present Him as a holy God who judges people like liars who pretend to write prophecy...
 - some strange fellow who had nothing to gain by writing such things if he was lying, but who went to the trouble to do it anyway.
- They are so blinded by their naturalistic commitment that they actually convince themselves that such a person existed.
 - And they use all their intellectual powers to try to support their theories—
 - because it just cannot be that Isaiah wrote all this!
- And they hold to these theories even though in the prophecies themselves,
 - the Lord declares that the very reason He is telling of future events is that all might know that He is Lord.
 - For example, in chapter 42, the Lord declares:
 - Isaiah 42:8-9: I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images. Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them."
 - The gods of the nations cannot predict the future! In Isaiah 41:22-24 hear how the Lord speaks to them...
 - Isaiah 41:22-24: "Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; Let them show the former things, what they were, That we may consider them, And know the latter end of them; Or declare to us things to come. Show the things that are to come hereafter, That we may know that you are gods; Yes, do good or do evil, That we may be dismayed and see it together. Indeed you are nothing, And your work is nothing..."
 - God declares these things before the fact because He is the One that brings them about... the one who causes them to happen.
 - In Isaiah 46:9-10, He says:
 - Isa 46:9-10: Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,’

My brothers and sisters,

- God is the one who decides what will happen to all the nations of the earth!
 - It is His counsel that stands—no one can alter it.
 - He is the supreme Judge of all the earth...
 - Whatever you see happening to the nations is His doing!

- I am very sad to say that there are many people in the Christian Church who do not believe this.
 - They do not see the hand of God in the judgements that befall the nations...
 - They do not respond to God when He sends affliction.
 - They do not see beyond the people, the circumstances, and nature ...
 - They do not see that all these are merely His instruments.
 - They do not regard the hand that moves all of these things for His glory and for the good of his people.

- And one of the main objections you hear is that God cannot be in control of all these things because there are so many things that are bad that befall us...
 - There are atheists and agnostics whose main problem with belief in God is that He sends hard things upon people and nations...
 - But the God of the Bible never denies that He is the author of all these things!
 - Instead, He insists again and again that He is the author of all of these things and that He sends them upon the nations as a just and holy Judge.
 - He presents these judgements, not as an evidence of His absence, but as an evidence of His presence as a God of justice!
 - With human sin and rebellion being what it is,
 - there would be more reason to deny Him if there were no evils that befell us in this life than that there are!
 - But modern men are so self-righteous that they have become blind to this.

 - The Lord makes it clear in His word that not all sin is judged now,
 - but that He has appointed a day when He will fully judge the world in righteousness...
 - and He has told us that in this world, judgement begins with His own people—they are the first to experience His more immediate judgements because He wishes to correct them and reform them.
 - But as we shall see in Isaiah 13-27, His judgement, even in this life, extends to all the nations.

- You cannot honestly read the book of Isaiah and come away with any other conclusion!
 - God tells what He is planning to do with each nation that is in any way associated with His people in the time Isaiah wrote...
 - And what He says is precisely what happened!
 - The only way unbelievers can deny it is by making the absurd claim that the predictive parts were written after the fact...
 - But they will perish with their theory if they don't repent!
- No, the real issue is that they are both terrified and offended that God would judge them—that He would be such a holy God and such a powerful God.
 - They just can't live with a God like that (and they often admit that they could not bear to have a god like that)...
 - They go to desperate lengths to deny Him... grasping for a way to comfort themselves in their perilous state before God.

But Psalm 9 teaches you to have an entirely different perspective on God's judgements!

- It teaches you that those who truly know God in this way will put their trust in Him!
 - And that they will thank Him and praise Him because of His judgements!
 - And that they will cry out to Him to arise and exercise His judgements in the earth for the spreading of His glory!

And because Psalm 9 leads us in how we ought to respond to God's judgement of the nations...

- I have selected it to go along with the next section in Isaiah that has so much to say about God's judgements of the nations.
- In case you are not familiar with our practice here,
 - we have made it customary to sing a Psalm that relates to our regular sermon series...
 - This not only helps to become quite familiar with the Psalm,
 - but also provides us with inspired words of praise that relate to our sermon series.
 - We can be sure that God is pleased with these songs because they are given to us in His Word.

And so this morning I want to draw your attention to this Psalm—Psalm 9...

- I will proceed by looking at three facts that are put forth in this Psalm about God as Judge...
 - And as we look at each of these facts, we will also look at how we ought to respond to them.

I. Fact #1: That whenever nations are brought down, it is God who has done it.

A. This fact is expressed in verse 3 where it says:

- Psalm 9:3: When my enemies turn back, They shall fall and perish at Your presence.

1. You see that this clearly teaches us the reason our enemies perish.

- It is because God is present...
 - Of course He is always present,
 - but there are many times in this world when He does not make Himself known.
 - But this is saying that whenever our enemies fall, it is God who has done—
 - He is the one who is ultimately responsible.
- He is the One Who (as it says in Daniel 2:21)
 - “changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.
 - Whatever authority and dominion kings have, they have only because God has given it to them...
 - Daniel says that even the wisdom they have to govern their kingdoms comes from God.
 - They have nothing but what He has given to them.
- And so it is that when they perish, it is because He has done it.
 - It may be that their economy falls apart or that drought ruins them or that armies invade and bring them down...
 - but these are all just various instruments that God uses to deal with them when He chooses to judge them and bring them down.

2. And you see how the Psalm goes on in the next two verses to say that in destroying our enemies,

- God was upholding our right and our cause...
- That their destruction was the result of His sitting on His throne of judgement.
- That it was all His doing...as verse 5 says:
 - Three times over it says that it was His doing
 - Ps 9:5: You have rebuked the nations,
 - You have destroyed the wicked;
 - You have blotted out their name forever and ever.

- So we sing here that the reason God is bringing hardship upon our enemies is because they have wronged us.
3. But who are you to sing these words?
- Who are you to say that when “my” enemies are destroyed,
 - God is the one who has done it as an act of righteous judgement?
 - What kind of arrogance is this that the Holy Spirit is teaching us to sing?
 - Well let me tell you—if you sing this of your personal enemies or even of the enemies of your nation,
 - you are indeed full of arrogance!
 - You are full of self-righteousness!
 - Always remember that you can only sing words like this if you sing them as one of God’s covenant people!
 - It is not about your personal enemies, it’s about the enemies of God and of His Christ.
 - It is about Satan and his seed (all who are in league with Him) versus Christ and His seed (all are in league with Him...)
 - Christ’s kingdom is the kingdom God established to reconcile sinners to Himself...
 - And those who are our enemies are those who are against this kingdom.
 - They are antagonistic to those who are looking to Christ to be restored to God.
 - We don’t sing Psalms as individuals but as members of Jesus Christ!
 - Jesus is our song leader, and just as we are taught to pray in His name, so we sing in His name.
 - Your enemy is not someone who cut in front of you at the grocery store—
 - it is someone who does not join the great cause of Jesus Christ
 - It is really Christ that our enemies are opposed to—
 - The reason they are opposed to us is because we have submitted to Him and they are opposed to Him.

TRANS> And so you see that whenever those who are opposing Him are turned away from their pursuit and brought to destruction,

- it is because God has brought destruction upon them.

- If even the sparrows do not fall without God, how much more the nations!
 - When nations fall, it is because the LORD has done it.
- B. And what is the proper response to the fact that God as judge is the one who causes our enemies to perish?
1. You are to praise Him for this!
 - That is what is says in verse 1...
 - Psalm 1:1: “I will praise you with my whole heart, I will tell of all your marvellous works...
 - and the marvellous works He is being praised for, as we have already seen in verse 3,
 - are His works of judgement against our enemies—
 - against the enemies of Christ and His kingdom of reconciliation.
 - God’s judgement is not something to be embarrassed about!
 - Not at all!
 - Even though wicked men, very obviously, despise the very thought of a God who judges in the earth—a God who finds fault with them...
 - even though they break out in rage and laugh you to scorn for even mentioning something so preposterous...
 - It is for you to praise God and give thanks to Him for His judgements.
 - The Hebrew word that is translated “praise” is the word we ran into last week—*yaw daw*
 - It’s root meaning is *to confess*.
 - Rather than denying God who does such things as judging the wicked, we are to confess Him...
 - And to confess Him is to praise Him for what He is and to thank Him for what He has done!
 - You are to do this, as it says, with your whole heart!
 - You are to tell others what He has done—
 - to point to the plagues in Egypt, to point to the fall of the Roman empire, to point the fall of the Soviet Union...
 - and you are to declare that this is all God’s doing and you are to praise Him for it.
 2. And you see further in verse 3 that you are to be glad and rejoice in what He has done—even in these works of judgement!

- a. Does that seem strange to you?
 - It need not.
 - If you love Christ's kingdom, then you are to rejoice when the Lord destroys that which is against His kingdom...
 - If you love the Saviour who came and gave Himself for the sins of the world that He might reconcile us to the Father,
 - then you are to hate all who oppose Him and His kingdom.

- b. But how does this square with our Lord's command to love?
 - It squares with it beautifully...
 - We want everyone to come into Christ's kingdom...
 - and if those who are standing in the way of that are brought down, it is grounds for rejoicing!
 - Not for the sake of the ones who are destroyed, but for the sake of those who are no longer hindered by their assault.
 - If you love people and there is a sniper who has opened fire in a crowd,
 - you rejoice when someone shots him down.
 - You may lament for him, but you rejoice that he is no longer able to destroy the life of others.
 - We will see this in Isaiah—he is pained and troubled when he sees the things that will befall the nations and he laments for them...
 - but he rejoices for the kingdom of God.
 - And of course I do not mean that we are to take it upon ourselves as individuals to attack the enemies of Christ in a bodily way...
 - God has not called us to do that, but rather to love them and to try to win them to His kingdom...
 - But when God judges nations that are opposed to Christ and His kingdom, we are to rejoice in that judgement.

3. And notice that this praise and rejoicing in God's judgements is something we resolve to do when we sing this Psalm.
 - Just as we saw in Isaiah 12 last week, a resolution is made that you will praise Him.
 - It is necessary to do this because we do not always think to praise God for His judgements...

- We have to deliberately set ourselves to do this—
- to realise that His kingdom matters more than anything else!

TRANS> So there you have the first fact—

- that when nations are destroyed, it is God who has brought the destruction...
 - And you have the proper response--
 - That we should praise Him with our whole heart when He has done this!
- Now let me show you the second fact that we are taught in this Psalm.

II. Fact #2—The LORD makes Himself known by His judgements.

A. This is expressly stated in verse 16.

- It says:
 - Ps 9:16: The LORD is known by the judgment He executes.
- 1. You see from this that there is a revelation of God to us through His judgements.
 - We come to know what He is like—
 - He reveals Himself through His judgements...
 - We are told at the end of verse 16 to meditate...
 - We are to stop and think about how God is known through His judgements.
 - We are to see what we can learn of Him through them...
 - That means that when a destructive hurricane comes through,
 - you are to learn about God from it...
 - Or when terrorists fly planes into the world trade centre,
 - you are to think about how God has made Himself known to us through these things.
- 2. So let me show you some of the ways that God is made known to us through His judgements.
 - a. First, consider that He shows us His power...
 - You may remember how He told Pharaoh that He had raised Him up to power for this reason:
 - “That I might make my power known in all the earth.”
 - Over and over in Exodus,
 - the LORD announces that He is going to bring this or that judgement to make His power known.

- By bringing down the most powerful nation in the world,
 - He showed His absolute dominion over the world...
 - He did the same when He brought down Assyria and then Babylon and then Persia and then Greece and then Rome...
 - He declared beforehand through Daniel that He would do this so that when it happened the glory would be His.

TRANS> But that is not all that is revealed when the LORD judges...

b. His justice and righteousness is also revealed in His judgements.

- Before His judgements fall,
 - men will do wicked things and get away with it.
 - Gradually, they become more and more bold in their sin.
 - Nations are the same way—we take more and more steps in our rebellion and start to justify our wickedness and call it good.
 - We lose sight of God’s justice and purity.
 - Just think how hardened persecutors become when God delays His judgement—
 - They will even heartlessly attack women and little children—
- But when God’s judgement falls,
 - It wakes us up!
 - Suddenly we see our sins a lot more clearly.
 - This is one of the reasons God has appointed the rod for covenant children—so that they will be checked to see the sinfulness of their sin before they are hardened in it.
- Verse 8 speaks of this when it says:
 - Ps 9:8: He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.
 - God, by His judgements, is graciously upholding righteousness among the nations.
 - When God’s judgement comes, we are brought before Him and all our sins seem to pass before us.
 - All the things that we had been justifying are seen in their true colours.
 - I hope all of you have experienced this...

- That there have been those times in your life when you were exposed and left naked before God—and when all your sins passed before you.
- If there were no judgements in the world now,
 - I can't imagine how far the world would have gone in its wickedness and self-justification...

TRANS> So you see how God's power and God's justice is revealed by His judgements...

c. Now let's consider His wisdom...

- His wisdom is displayed when He causes the wicked to become entangled and caught in their own nets...
 - Do you remember the story of Haman in Esther?
 - He built a great gallows for Mordecia, his enemy,
 - and the Lord brought about a marvellous chain of events that caused Haman to be hung on his own gallows.
- In the same way, God judges men he hates by turning them over to fornication...
 - and the man ends up with an ugly life in which he doesn't even know how to love a woman—
 - he ends up swallowing up his own soul until he is an empty shell—hollow and ruined.
 - God's wisdom is revealed in His judgements.

TRANS> And finally, I want you to consider how...

d. Even God's grace is revealed in His judgements, and that in two ways:

- 1) First, in that He rescues His people by judging their enemies.
 - One of the main reasons we are told that Jesus came was to crush the serpent's head—even Satan...
 - to abolish death and him that had the power of it...
 - to release us from bondage that we might become the servants of God who were slaves to sin...
 - If you are a believer,
 - You know what it is to be engaged in the great conflict with Satan and the world...
 - You know how your enemies try to entice you away from Christ and His kingdom...

- And if they cannot draw you away, they try to drive you away by mocking and by persecution...
- All over the world, this is happening...
- And so you can see how God's grace is revealed to us when He destroys our enemies.
 - It is an expression of His mercy and His care of us.
 - His promise of grace is that all our enemies will be destroyed.
 - We see His grace in restraining them whenever His judgement falls on them.
 - This is the first way His grace is seen in His judgements...

TRANS> But there is also a second way His grace is seen...

- 2) It is seen most abundantly and amazingly in the judgement that has fallen upon Jesus Christ when He was crucified for our sins!
 - What a marvellous thing it was to see this terrible judgement that put God's Son to anguish and that caused Him to cry out as one rejected of the Father!
 - All this because His great love for us!
 - Every believer has come to know the grace of God through this terrible wonderful judgement!
 - We look at it and we see how great the Father's love is for us...
 - and how great the Son's love is...
 - Through this judgement we come to know our God!

TRANS> Okay then, so you see some of the ways that God is known through His judgements...

B. How ought you to respond to the fact that God makes Himself known through His judgements....

- You are to trust in Him.
- 1. Verse 10 tells us plainly those who come to know the name of the Lord will trust in Him...
 - Ps 9:10: And those who know Your name will put their trust in You;
 - Isn't that a marvellous verse?
 - Ps 9:10: And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

- The word *trust* that is used here is the word $\times j b$ *baw-takh'*.
- I love this word because it not only speaks of that **fact** that you rely upon something...
 - but also that you are at ease because you are relying on it.
 - You know, you can rely on something and still be very nervous because you are not very sure if it is safe to rely on...
 - But this speaks of a reliance on the LORD, as revealed in His judgements, that makes you quiet and settled—at peace!
 - It is the meek and quiet spirit that Peter says women with disobedient husbands have when they trust the Lord...
 - They are not all agitated and anxious and fretful—they are just settled and able to be kind and gracious...
 - It is truly precious in the sight of the Lord!
 - It is absolutely beautiful!

2. There can be storms all around you...

- commotions and tumults and agitation,
 - the mountains can be cast into the midst of the sea, but you are simply trusting in the LORD.
- You are like Jesus in the storm at sea—poised, settled, quiet, serene, at peace!
 - Your enemies are throwing firebrands and shouting and making threats...
 - but you are resting in the LORD...
- Do you see the preceding verse? verse 9?
 - It is about God being our refuge when we are oppressed and in times of trouble!
 - Even though your enemies are raging
 - You are certain that you are perfectly safe in the loving arms of the Lord...
 - Let them torture you, let them call you evil, let them mock you, let them do whatever they will—
 - You know the LORD and you have complete confidence in Him...
 - Let them kill you—He will still raise you up and bring you to His eternal kingdom!
- You know with certainty that he is the one who, as the end of verse 10 says,

- has not forsaken those who seek Him!
- It is not in Him to forsake them!
 - He cannot do it and He will not do it!
 - It goes against His nature.
 - You know Him as the one who brought down His judgement on His own Son so that it looked like everything He came to do was going to fail...
 - and how it turned out that that very event was the event that brought salvation to all His people forever and ever!
 - You have perfect confidence in this God because you know Him through His judgements!
 - Of what could you possibly be afraid when you have a God so powerful, so faithful, who loves you so much?
- If you really know Him, you will trust in Him!
 - You won't hold on to all the stupid things you trust in now...
 - You will trust in the one who has proven Himself to be absolutely reliable!
 - O my brothers and sisters, let it be so!

TRANS> And now we come to the third fact about God's judgement that is presented to us in this Psalm... namely,

III. Fact 3# The LORD brings everything to its proper place by His judgement.

A. What I mean by that is that He at last brings about perfect, complete, settled justice—once and for all!

- He speaks the last word.
 - He pronounces the final and inalterable verdict.
 - He moves each person to the place that is his own.
1. The general principle is stated in verse 8:
- Psalm 9:8: He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.
 - Everything He does will be so perfect and so right and so beautiful...
 - It will be so clear and so just and so completely fitting.
 - There will be no question that perfect justice has been done—
 - no one will be able to dispute it even in his own mind because we will see things in the light of His truth!

- All excuses will vanish, all charges of unfairness will cease...
 - That is the general principle:
 - Psalm 9:8: He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.
2. But this principle will result in two very radically different outcomes...
- There will be one outcome for the believer and a very different outcome for the unbeliever.
 - In the context of judgement, the believer is referred to in this Psalm as the humble, the needy and the poor...
 - and the unbeliever is presented as the wicked who oppresses the believer.
 - a. First, let's look at the outcome for those who are called the humble (v. 12) and the needy (v. 18) and the poor (v. 18).
 - These are the ones who came to understand the oppression that Satan had brought them under—the bondage to sin...
 - They are the ones who appeal to the LORD to save them from their sin and evil,
 - who cry out to Him to deliver them from their bondage.
 - They want nothing more than complete deliverance.
 - Yet the wicked continually vex them—laying all kinds of snares for them...
 - enticing them with sin and deceitful lusts,
 - spouting off high sounding arguments and objections to the Lord's ways...
 - promoting all sorts of false alternatives to the truth...
 - persecuting them and so on.
 - And though the redeemed have Christ and though they cling to Him,
 - they still have their flesh and their sinful propensity that is so easily drawn after wickedness and confusion.
 - They are poor in spirit and they mourn over their weakness...
 - They hunger and thirst after righteousness in a dry and barren land.
 - Their assault of the wicked lays heavily upon them.
 - But there is good news here for them!

- v. 12: When He avenges blood, He remembers them; He does not forget the cry of the humble.
 - v. 18: For the needy shall not always be forgotten; The expectation of the poor shall not perish forever.
 - God will at last bring a complete end to our oppression.
 - We will see Christ our Saviour and we will be like Him.
 - We will see our enemies completely removed, cast in the lake of fire.
 - This happens when God's complete judgement falls!
 - It is an excellent thing for us...
- b. But for those who here called the wicked—it will be quite a different story for them!
- Verse 17 sums it up fully:
 - Ps 9:17: The wicked shall be turned into hell, And all the nations that forget God.
 - There will be a dreadful end for them!
 - How could they have been so unconcerned about their sin?
 - How could they have been so indifferent to their need of salvation?
 - How could they have been content to continue in their rebellion against God...
 - even when He had sent His only begotten Son?
 - How could they continue to oppose the kingdom of righteousness that Jesus came to establish?
 - To speak against it, to resist it, to try to pull it down, to try to wipe it out.
 - All that they have done will be revealed in the true light of God's presence...
 - His truth will burn with unwavering clarity and the justice of their condemnation will be certain to all.
 - They will be turned into Hell—
 - turned away from all their vanity and their empty pursuits and sent to their own place to bear the punishment.
 - They will be brought to suffer forever because they were so wicked and stupid that they actually tried to stand up in defiance against God...
 - So wicked because He is so good and glorious and beautiful!

- So stupid because He is the one who holds their life together—without Him, they are but dust!
- c. And indeed, this is the one thing that we will have in common with the wicked when God’s judgement is complete...
- With the wicked we will see how wicked and how stupid we were to spurn the living God...
 - but for us who sought His salvation, this revelation will result in overflowing gratitude and joy that He has saved us...
 - but for those who resisted Christ salvation and kingdom, this revelation will result in stark terror and endless shame...
 - They will be brought to their place and we will be brought to our place.
- B. And how are we to respond to this fact that God’s judgement will send each to His proper place...
1. We are to respond by crying out to the Lord with earnestness that He would bring forth His judgement!
- a. You see the prayer in verse 13-14...
- Ps 9:13-14: Have mercy on me, O LORD! Consider my trouble from those who hate me, You who lift me up from the gates of death, that I may tell of all Your praise In the gates of the daughter of Zion. I will rejoice in Your salvation.
 - Those words “have mercy on me” yn:nnx is a cry of an inferior to a superior who has no grounds to claim the attention of the superior except that he has need...
 - It is a cry of desperation!
 - It is a cry of one who seems himself slipping into death and who looks to God for deliverance!
 - And you see the goal...
 - So that we can be brought into the gates of Zion where the LORD is to rejoice in His salvation—
 - So that we can join in with the song of the redeemed who have been pardoned and sanctified through Jesus Christ!
 - Let us even follow Jesus, our head in this prayer!
 - For He cried out for mercy when He bore our sins on the cross and He was heard—
 - His sacrifice was received—

- and now He delights to gather the whole church together to give thanks for our salvation!
 - Yet, as long as we are in this world,
 - He also makes intercession for us that we would be delivered from wickedness and at last taken out of the world to be with Him forever...
 - Let us therefore join Him in praying that God's judgement would be hastened.
- b. You see that a prayer for God's judgement is also given to us in verse 19-20.
- It says,
 - Ps 9:19-20: Arise, O LORD, Do not let man prevail; Let the nations be judged in Your sight. Put them in fear, O LORD, That the nations may know themselves to be but men.
 - This is really a prayer that God would judge so that is glory that is now hidden would shine forth...
 - It is a desire for God do what we saw His judgement is going to do...
 - put men in their place before Him.
 - Cause them to realise that they are mere men who somehow thought they could defy the living God...
 - that the dust of the ground could hold itself together and oppose Him!
 - "Bring your judgement so that they will know what they are—
 - and so that we and they will fully know what you are!"
- c. And so in this you see that there is to be a delight in God's judgement because it puts us all in our place so that we are able to see the glory of God.
- Judgement is something we are to love...
 - It is something to praise God for...
 - It is something to know God through...
 - It is something to plead with God to send.
 - There is nothing so important as God making Himself known!
 - Of Him and through Him and to Him are all things...
 - to whom be the glory forever and ever... Amen!
 - Each week as we sing this Psalm,
 - Let us offer our praise to God for His judgements with a sincere and glad heart—
 - And let us rejoice at how God is make known to us through His judgements (just think how blind we would be if He did not judge)
 - And let us cry out to Him fervently to send forth more of His judgements.