

“Bar-None; Judgment & Repentance”

Deuteronomy 4: 25 - 31

November 7, 2010

“Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.” (1 Corinthians 10: 11)

- Bar-None; There Is None Other Who Will Judge Rebellion With A Righteous Judgment, (vs. 25 – 28)
 - God’s righteous judgment toward rebellion may seem like “blessing” to those who have forgotten God, (vs. 27 – 28)
 1. Those who have no knowledge of God are not bothered by “living” in the midst of the pagan world, (vs. 27a); *“I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. SANCTIFY them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be SANCTIFIED in truth.” (John 17:14-19)*
 2. Those who have no knowledge of God will assimilate themselves into the pagan world out of necessity, (vs. 27b); *“Whereas you WERE as numerous as the stars of heaven, you shall be LEFT few in number, because you did not OBEY the voice of the LORD your God. And as the LORD took DELIGHT in doing you good and multiplying you, so the LORD will take DELIGHT in bringing ruin upon you and destroying you. And you shall be PLUCKED off the land that you are ENTERING to take possession of it.” (Deuteronomy 28:62-63)*
 3. Those who have no knowledge of God do not recognize that God has “driven” them there as punishment, (vs. 27c); *“REMEMBER the word that you COMMANDED your servant Moses, saying, ‘If you are UNFAITHFUL, I will SCATTER you among the peoples, but if you RETURN to me and KEEP my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will GATHER them and BRING them to the place that I have CHOSEN, to make my name dwell there.’” (Nehemiah 1:8-9)*
 4. Those who have no knowledge of God will continue to worship the temporal & not the eternal, (vs. 28a); *“They EXCHANGED the glory of God for the image of an ox that EATS grass. They FORGOT God, their SAVIOR, who had DONE great things in Egypt, wondrous works in the land of Ham, and AWESOME deeds by the Red Sea.” (Psalm 106:20-22)*
 5. Those who have no knowledge of God will continue to exalt themselves & not submit to God, (vs. 28b); *“Has a nation CHANGED its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which does not PROFIT. Be APPALLED, O heavens, at this; be SHOCKED, be utterly DESOLATE, declares the LORD, for my people have COMMITTED two evils: they have FORSAKEN me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can HOLD no water.” (Jeremiah 2:11-13)*
 6. Those who have no knowledge of God will persist in trusting in what has no ability to provide, (vs. 28c); *“They have mouths, but do not SPEAK; eyes, but do not SEE. They have ears, but do not HEAR; noses, but do not SMELL. They have hands, but do not FEEL; feet, but do not WALK; and they do not make a SOUND in their throat. Those who MAKE them BECOME like them; so do all who TRUST in them.” (Psalm 115:5-8, ESV)*
 - Bar-None; There Is None Other Who Will Bring Conviction Leading To Genuine Repentance, (vs. 29 – 31)
 - God’s conviction falls when you least expect it & when you are not looking for it, (vs. 29)
 1. God’s conviction confronts your rebellion right where you are & shatters the self-centered mold, (vs. 29a)
 2. God’s conviction drives you to a material knowledge of who God is & who you are not, (vs. 29b)
 3. God’s conviction irrevocably changes your motives & attitudes, (vs. 29c)
 - God’s conviction opens your eyes to the reality of your circumstances, (vs. 30)
 1. God’s conviction reveals that tribulation has come for God’s ordained purpose & not by chance, (vs. 30a)
 2. God’s conviction reveals that you are in fact powerless to change anything about your circumstances, (vs. 30b)
 3. God’s conviction reveals that any hope of salvation is only found in complete submission to God, (vs. 30c)
 - God’s conviction draws those who hear into genuine, life giving repentance, (vs. 31)
 1. Genuine repentance accepts that God saves because of His mercy alone & because of nothing else, (vs. 31a)
 2. Genuine repentance accepts the promise of God that He has not & will not abandon you, (vs. 31b)
 3. Genuine repentance accepts the reality that God has not destroyed you although He could, (vs. 31c)
 4. Genuine repentance accepts the absolute truth that God’s offer of salvation is for His glory; not ours, (vs. 31d)