

God's Rights

Habakkuk 2:20 "the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him."

God's Rights

- "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Prov. 14:34).
- "It is an abomination to kings to commit wickedness: for the throne is established by righteousness" (Prov. 16:12).

God's Rule Includes Chastening and Judgment of Nations

1. In **Genesis 6-9** God judged the world through a universal flood.
2. God chastened those who tried to build "a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven" by diversifying their languages and scattering them "upon the face of all the earth" (**Gen.11:1-9**).

God's Rule Includes Chastening and Judgment of Nations

3. Sodom and Gomorrah were utterly destroyed for their homosexual sins by fire and brimstone which God rained down upon them (**Gen. 18-19**).
 4. Isaiah revealed that God would "stir up the Medes against them....And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah" (**Isa. 13:1, 17-22**).
- The destruction would be so complete and fearful that the city would never again be inhabited, not even by desert nomads or shepherds!

God's Rule Includes Chastening and Judgment of Nations

Jeremiah 25 shows that as God punished Israel, He will also "give them that are **wicked to the sword**" among all the nations (**vs. 31; Cf. vs. 26**).

5. The Roman Empire was chastised for its sins of materialism, immorality, false religion, and persecution of Christians. (**Rev. 18:1-5**)

God's Rule Includes Chastening and Judgment of Nations

NOTE: God's chastening and judgments reflect His patience and love as He seeks to save men.

1. When God promised the land of Canaan to Abram, He delayed the fulfillment of the promise for four generations because "**the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full**" (**Gen. 15:16**).

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2. The great cities of Sodom and Gomorrah would have been spared if God could have found only ten righteous people (*Gen. 18:23-33*).
3. God sent chastisements and judgments upon Israel, the Northern kingdom, which were not taken to heart (*Isa. 9:8-10:4; Cf. Amos 4:6-13*).

God Uses Nature, Nations, & Individuals in His Rule. *Joel 1; Isa. 44:24-28*

- *"the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the lowest of men" (Dan. 4:17).*

The Authority of God

- God raises the nations and destroys them. (*Jer. 18:1ff; cf. Book of Habakkuk*)
- God the potter – Man the clay. (*Rom. 9:20-21*)
- God made heaven & earth. (*Gen. 1:1; Acts 4:24; 17:22-31*)
- All things created for Him and unto Him. (*Col. 1:16*)
- Worthy of honor. (*Rev. 4:9-11*)

Therefore, God Has The Right To:

- Make divine laws and require man to obey. (*Gen. 2:15-17; Mt. 7:21; Heb. 5:8; Isa. 55:8-9*)
- Condemn every religious teaching of man. (*2 Jno. 9; Gal. 1:8-9; Mt. 15:9,13; Rom. 16:17*)
- Specify the worship he will accept. (*Jno. 4:24; 1 Cor. 4:6; cf. Gen. 4; Lev. 10*)

God Has The Right To:

- Remit sins or retain sins. (*Mt. 26:26ff; Mt. 16:19; Mt. 18:18; Jno. 20:23; Acts 2:38*)
- Record name in the book of life or blot it out. (*Lk. 10:20; Phil. 4:3; Cf. Ex. 32:31-33; Rev. 3:5; 21:27; 20:15*)
- Bless the obedient and punish the disobedient. (*Mt. 13:41ff; 25:34ff; Rev. 21:8*)
 - Man is sufficiently warned. (*Jno. 12:48; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Thes. 1:8-9*)

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