

Sermon Discussion Questions – October 7, 2018

Isaiah 3:1-15

1. This message began by examining a fresco done by the Italian Renaissance painter Michelangelo, known as “The Last Judgement.” What stood out to you from this work of art? What parts of Pastor Tom’s explanation of the Fresco resonated most with you? What emotions were elicited from seeing the wicked being judged and facing eternal punishment?
 - a. If you were unable to attend the sermon and are unfamiliar with this painting, please look up the painting online for reference sake remembering that it is a work of art and we will all have different opinions about what might be displayed in the picture.
2. Pastor Tom mentioned that God will eventually come to judge all, but his judgement does not always wait until the end of time, it often happens in the here and now for the wicked (vs.11). In this chapter we see that God’s judgment can mean the removal of blessings (supply/support –vs.1; leadership –vs.2-3; harmony –vs.5-7). As we look around our world and see idolatry, wickedness and discord, it feels like God’s judgement is happening now. Where do you see wickedness in our world? What can you do to live as one who strives for righteousness in the midst a world that doesn’t?
3. There were reasons for judgement found in our passage (words against God –vs.8; actions against God –vs.8; sin without shame –vs.9). Do you resonate with any of these? Have you spoken against God (or maybe not spoke out in defense of Him when you should have)? Have you been involved in specific actions against God (or again maybe not acted when he has called you to act)? If God used this message to shine a light on areas of sin in your life, consider what it looks like for you to repent and move forward.
4. The sermon ended with a charge to strive for righteousness. In the midst of a heavy passage, God makes sure that he encourages those living for Him. Verse 10 says, “Tell the righteous it will be well with them, for they will enjoy the fruit of their deeds”.

Regardless of the wickedness around us, if we live righteous lives, God has promised that He will bless us. How do we become righteous? Tom gave two main ways (1- pursue holiness and 2- pursue your purpose).

- a. Read 1 Peter 4:2-5 – What is this passage saying to you about pursuing holiness? How can you bring God’s love and presence into this world?
- b. Read 1 Corinthians 15:58 – What is the work of the Lord that you are doing currently? How are you pursuing your purpose?