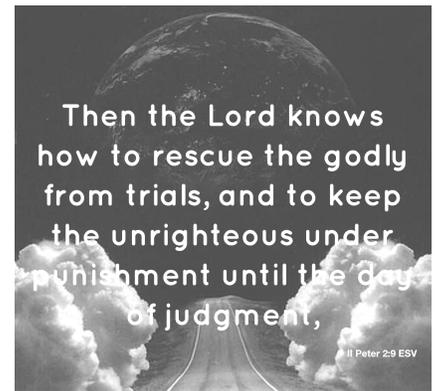


A Study of The Epistle of 2nd Peter
Theme: “Grow in Grace and Knowledge”

Trinity Lutheran Church - Norman, OK.
Pastor David R. Nehrenz – www.tlcnorman.org
Lesson: 13 Chapter 2:9-11 Date: 10-24-21



BIBLE TEXT and STUDY NOTES

(9) then **the Lord** knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until **the day of judgment**, (10) and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority. Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones, (11) whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a blasphemous judgment against them before **the Lord**.

**(Ex 22:28; Ps 37:33; Mt 12:36,37,41,42; John 3:19; 5:26-30;
Acts 24:25; Rom 2:1-5; 15:31; 1 Cor 10:13; 2 Cor 5:10; 2 Thess 1:5;
Heb 13:17; 1 John 4:15-19; Jude 6-10, 16-18; Rev 3:10; 14:7)**

LUTHER’S WORKS – VOLUME 30

9. *Then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trial, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the Day of Judgment,*

10. *and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion.*

This betokens great wrath and earnestness on the part of the apostle. If **God** did not spare the young and new world, he says, how much harder and more severely He will punish the world after **the Gospel** has been revealed and preached, and no **light so great** has ever before dawned! Thus **Christ** also proclaims in Matt. 11:23–24: “And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades. For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I tell you that it shall be more tolerable on **the Day of Judgment** for the land of Sodom than for you.” Yet such threats are to no avail; the ungodly pay no attention to them.

“To indulge in the lust of defiling passion” is to live like an irrational beast according to one’s own notion and all lust. Thus in the pope’s law’s everything has been laid down as it pleased him. Everything had to serve their arbitrariness and tyranny. They bent and interpreted everything as they desired, and then they declared that the Holy See in Rome cannot err. Not one of them has preached anything about faith or about love, but they have taught only their own fabrications.

They despise authority. Bold and willful, they are not afraid to revile the glorious ones,

11. whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a reviling judgment upon them before the Lord.

He calls kings, princes, lords, and all worldly government, not the popes and the bishops, “authority,” for the latter were not to be lords, since **Christ** appointed only servants in **the New Testament**. One Christian was to serve and honor the other Christian. Therefore Peter means that they should be subject and obedient to the secular overlords, in order that the sword, which is instituted by **God’s arrangement**, might be feared.

But they do the very opposite; they have excluded themselves and say that they are not subject to the secular government. Yes, they have not only excluded themselves; but they have also subjected the secular government to themselves and have trodden it underfoot. Brazenly they let themselves be called lords even by kings and princes, just as the pope writes about himself that he is lord of heaven and earth, that he has both the spiritual and the secular sword in his hand, and that everyone is obliged to fall down before him.

Furthermore, St. Peter says that “they are not afraid to revile **the glorious ones.**” For it has been a trifling and simple matter for the pope to excommunicate kings and princes, to anathematize them, and to depose them, likewise to bring about such misfortune among them and to set the princes against one another. Those who opposed this he soon silenced and subdued, not because they acted contrary to faith and love, but solely because they refused to be subject to the Roman See or to kiss the pope’s feet; for the power of the popes is as much greater than that of the secular lords as the sun is superior to the moon and as high as heaven is from the earth, as they blaspheme and lie.

Yet they should be subject and obedient to, bless, and pray for, the secular lords, just as the **Lord Christ** was subject to Pilate and gave the tribute money to the emperor. They should tremble at the thought of reviling the majesties. Yet they are unafraid. Besides, they are insolent, and they revile them in a completely outrageous and arrogant manner, though even the most powerful angels cannot bear **the Lord’s adverse judgment**. Still they are unrepentant, and they revile and curse the judgment they cannot escape. How, then, do these wretched people hope to be able to bear it?

LIFE APPLICATION

How can we be the righteous ones who will be rescued from the final judgment?