



The LORD is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.
Psalm 103:8 (NLT)

I. WHY GOD'S JUDGMENT IS NECESSARY

1. God's judgment demonstrates that He cares

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.
Psalm 34:18 (NLT)

2. God's judgment displays His character

The LORD demands accurate scales and balances; he sets the standards for fairness.
Proverbs 16:11 (NLT)

3. God's judgment destroys evil

The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.
Revelation 20:10 (NKJV)

4. God's judgment empowers me to forgive

Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the LORD.
Romans 12:19 (NLT)

5. God's judgment was satisfied by Christ

And they speak of how you are looking forward to the coming of God's Son from heaven—Jesus, whom God raised from the dead. He is the one who has rescued us from the terrors of the coming judgment.
1 Thessalonians 1:10 (NLT)

II. EVENTS SURROUNDING THE OPENING OF THE 7TH SEAL—REVELATION 8:1-13

1. Silence in heaven (v.1)

From heaven you announced a verdict. The earth was fearful and silent when you rose to judge, O God, when you rose to save every oppressed person on earth.

Psalm 76:8-9 (GWT)

2. Seven angels with seven trumpets stand before God (v.2)

3. Another angel stands at the altar (v.3-5)

Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

2 Timothy 4:14-15 (NIV)

4. Seven angels prepare to sound the seven trumpets (v.6-12)

The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.

2 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

- **First trumpet: A third of the land is set on fire (v.7)**
- **Second trumpet: A great mountain of fire kills a third of the sea (v.8-9)**
- **Third trumpet: A third of fresh water was poisoned by a falling star (v.10-11)**
- **Fourth trumpet: A third of the day and night's light was darkened (v.12)**

Nothing happens while you live. The scenery changes, people come in and go out, that's all. There are no beginnings. Days are tacked on to days without rhyme or reason, an interminable, monotonous addition.

Jean-Paul Sartre in Nausea

Good understanding wins favor, but the way of the unfaithful is hard.

Proverbs 13:15 (NIV)

5. An eagle announces that the judgment of the next three trumpets will be worse than first four (v.13)