6-30-2024 Sunday Sermon Message Devotional of the Week: Psalm 91:1-16

Text: Psalm 11:4

Title: God sees the children of men in heaven and examines them with His eyelids.

The Bible says that since God drove out the first man who sinned from Eden, God has been in the holy temple in heaven and has been looking down on the descendants of men until now, and He is examining them with His eyelids.

The prophet Isaiah testified of this:

"22 It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in: 23 That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity." Isaiah 40:22-23)

About a thousand years later, when the sons of God saw the beauty of the daughters of men, and they saw that they were taking all whom they had chosen as wives, he said, "My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years." (Genesis 6:3). God had given them a chance for a hundred and twenty years.

God then went on to see that man's wickedness had multiplied in the world, and that all the imaginations of his heart's thoughts were nothing but evil, and he regretted that the Lord had made man on the earth, which grieved his heart (Genesis 6:5-6)

God chose Noah, the only man who found grace in His eyes, and through him He built the ark, killing all the people on the face of the earth in the flood, leaving no one left except Noah and his family.

After this great judgment of God, the people of the world still did not turn away from their wickedness and dared to challenge God:
They said to one another, 'Let us go and make bricks and make them hard.' And they substituted bricks for stone and bitumen for plaster, and they said, 'Let us go and build for us a city and a tower, with the top of the tower reaching to heaven, and make a name for ourselves. so that we may not be scattered over all the face of the earth. (Genesis 11:4)

Finally, God came down from heaven to see what they were doing. God has spoken.

"'<sup>7</sup> Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." And he scattered them far away from there all over the face of the earth.

Years later, hearing the cries of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah, God appeared to Abram in human form with two angels:

"18 And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;<sup>2</sup> And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,3 And said, My LORD, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:... 20 And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;21 will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.<sup>22</sup> And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD."(Genesis 18:1-3,20-22)

The two angels who appeared with the Lord were the angels who came to judge Sodom and Gomorrah by fire. After Lot had taken refuge in safety, the Lord rained down fire and brimstone from heaven upon Sodom and Gomorrah and overturned the cities and all the plains and all the inhabitants of the cities and the things that grew on the earth (Genesis 19:23-25)

God sent the prophet Ezekiel to testify about the sins of Sodom:

"As I live, saith the Lord God, Sodom thy sister hath not done, she nor her daughters, as thou hast done, thou and thy daughters. 49 Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

## <sup>50</sup> And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good."(Ezekiel 16:48-50)

When we see that God has told us what He saw about the sin of Sodom long ago, we can see that it is being perpetrated among all the nations of the world today, in which we live today. Now, in the last days, God knows that the time has come for Him to examine all nations from His throne in heaven with His eyelids, and He plans to judge the unrepentant nations of the world.

However, God planned to save whoever believes in the gospel of Christ by sending His only begotten Son, Christ Jesus, into the world and shedding His blood on the cross to take away all the sins of the world, being buried, and resurrected on the third day according to the scriptures. In the name of Christ Jesus, God sent the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, and made those who were sealed by the Holy Spirit become the body of Christ, the church of God.

As prophesied through the prophet Daniel, God planned the seven-year tribulation in the last week and judged the Jews and Gentiles who did not belong to the Church of God because they did not believe in Christ Jesus.

However, God will make the Church of God the bride of Christ and rapture it in heaven before the Great Tribulation. Just as God sent fire upon Sodom and Gomorrah after saving Lot, the only righteous man in Sodom, and his family, the Holy Spirit sent the Apostle Paul to deliver a message about the rapture that would take place before the Great Tribulation:

"16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

And the Lord himself shall come down from heaven with a shout, and with the voice of the archangel, "( 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)

But in the midst of the great tribulation, all unrepentant nations will face the final judgment at Armageddon. Finally, the prophets Isaiah, Scaiah, and the Apostle John testified of the inspection of all nations at Armageddon:

"34 Come near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it.² For the indignation of the LORD is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter.³ Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcases, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood.⁴ And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree."(Isaiah 34:1-4)

"14 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.

<sup>2</sup> For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

<sup>3</sup> Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle."(Zechariah 14:1-3)

"11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.... 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. winepress of the wrath of God Almighty." (Revelation 19:11,15) Amen! Hallelujah!