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Pastor of Membership

Sunday Morning
March 17, 2024

GENESIS

FATHERS, CHAPTERS 12-35

“The Conversation Before The Storm” (Genesis 18:16-33, pew Bible page 13)

I. A Question of Intent by the Lord (vv. 16-21)

A. The Setting of the Question (v. 16)

B. The Soliloquy Around the Question (vv. 17-19)

v. 17: “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do...?”

C. The Statement after the Question (vv. 20-21)

II. A Question of Intercession by Abraham (vv. 22-33)

A. His overall question, v. 23: “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?”

B. First Scenario, the 50 “righteous” (vv. 24-26)

Application: We are to pray with both a humble confidence and a respectful persistence.

His underlying question, v. 25b: “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?”

Definition of justice: The Biblical concept of justice is rendering impartially and proportionally to everyone his due in accord with the righteous standard of God’s moral law.

C. Second Scenario, the 45 “righteous” (vv. 27-28)

D. Four More Scenarios (vv. 29-32)

- i. 40 “righteous,” v. 29 & the Lord’s answer is “I will not do it,” v. 29b
- ii. 30 “righteous,” v. 30 & the Lord’s answer is “I will not do it,” v. 30b
- iii. 20 “righteous,” v. 31 & the Lord’s answer is “I will not destroy it,” v. 31b
- iv. 10 “righteous,” v. 32 & the Lord’s answer is “I will not destroy it,” v. 32

E. The Lord’s final answer, v. 33: “And the Lord went his way...”

Recommended Resources For Further Study

- Related passages: Ephesians 1:1-14, 1 Timothy 2:1-3, James 1:5, Genesis 15, Romans 6:23 & Malachi 4
- “Social Justice: How Good Intentions Undermine Justice and the Gospel,” a book by Calvin Beisner, <https://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF13E133.pdf>
- “Abraham,” a book by Charles Swindoll