

Chapter 11:   
The collapse and God’s judgment

Group Study Leader Guide

**General Instructions:**

* Have the students read the book chapter before meeting to discuss its principles.
* There is no handout for group members. Use the group study questions at the end of each chapter in the book as the basis for the discussion.
* The section below provides the location of answers (page and paragraph in the book), the answers themselves (in brief), and the goal of each question.

**Chapter 11 Group Study Questions Discussion Key**

1. Is God a god of justice and judgment? Support your answer with verses from the Bible.
   1. Answer location: Page 124, paragraph 4 through page 125, paragraph 3
   2. Answer in brief: Yes, God is a god of justice and judgment. Among others, Psalm 96:12-13 and Isaiah 5:16 teach this truth.
   3. Goal of the question: To prove to the student that God is not simply a God of love; he is also a God of justice and judgment.
2. How is Psalm 103:8 a source of hope for the future of our nation?
   1. Answer location: Page 125, paragraph 2.
   2. Answer in brief: God’s patience may give us time to repent and prevent his judgment.
   3. Goal of the question: To encourage the student to take advantage of the patience of God by turning to him in repentance.
3. Does God still rule the nations? Support your answer with verses from the Bible.
   1. Answer location: Page 125, paragraph 4 through page 126, paragraph 2
   2. Answer in brief: Yes, God still rules the nations. Among others, Job 12:23-25 and Daniel 4:35 teach this truth.
   3. Goal of the question: To prove to the student that God is still the judge of the nations and that he will punish them if they continue in sin.
4. What were you most surprised to learn about America’s history with the God of the Bible? Had you ever heard any of these things at school?
   1. Answer location: Page 126, paragraph 3 through page 128, paragraph 3.
   2. Answer in brief: This section reviews the history of the God of the Bible with the U. S. There is no right or wrong answer.
   3. Goal of the question: To introduce the student to the rich history America has with the God of the Bible.
5. What are some of the sins of America that God may be judging through the collapse?
   1. Answer location: Page 128, paragraph 4 through the end of page 129.
   2. Answer in brief: The bold rejection of the existence of God; the ridicule and mocking of God’s nature and Word; the rejection of God’s design for sex and marriage; abortion, murder, and brutal violence; idolatry; and increasing lawlessness.
   3. Goal of the question: To highlight for the student some of the more obvious sins of modern America.
6. How might God have been trying to get our attention as a nation over the last 20 years? What judgments has he brought on us that we have not recognized as such?
   1. Answer location: Page 130, paragraph 2 through page 131, paragraph 1.
   2. Answer in brief: The judgments of 9/11, the Great Recession, natural disasters, and the pandemic.
   3. Goal of the question: To make the student aware of the judgments God has already placed upon America.
7. Why is God angry with his own people in the U.S.?
   1. Answer location: Page 132, paragraph 2 through page 135, paragraph 2.
   2. Answer in brief: Lack of faithfulness; failure to evangelize, care for the poor and oppressed, and stand for truth; and publicly siding with and empowering the godless.
   3. Goal of the question: To make the student aware of the judgments God has already placed upon the Christian church.
8. Do you think this statement from the chapter is true or false? Why? “It could be said that the fall of the nation is a direct result of the fall of the churches. The great influence they had in the first 150 years of American history has been completely lost. The tremendous spiritual starting place granted this nation, one that has never been seen outside of Israel itself, has been criminally mismanaged and destroyed.”
   1. Answer location: Page 132, paragraph 3.
   2. Answer in brief: There is no right or wrong answer here.
   3. Goal of the question: To get the student to think about the relationship between the beliefs and conduct of the church and the beliefs and conduct of the society in which the church resides.
9. How have American Christians been publicly taking the side of the wicked? Have you noticed this? Share an example if you have.
   1. Answer location: Page 134, paragraph 1.
   2. Answer in brief: There is no right or wrong answer here, but representative examples are given in the paragraph listed.
   3. Goal of the question: To cause students to think about the evil of supporting and empowering the wicked.
10. What is the only act that can prevent God’s judgment of our nation? What can you do to keep judgment from coming?
    1. Answer location: Page 135, paragraph 4 through page 136, paragraph 3.
    2. Answer in brief: Repentance to God is the only thing that can prevent judgment
    3. Goal of the question: To bring the student to conviction of sin and to drive him to repentance before God.