

The Wrath of Our God

2/14/12 B. Olson

Jeremiah 10:10-15 But the Lord is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth quakes, and the nations cannot endure His indignation. It is He who made the earth by His power, who established the world by His wisdom; and by His understanding He has stretched out the heavens. He causes the clouds to ascend from the end of the earth, He makes lightning for the rain, and brings out the wind from His storehouses. Every man is stupid, devoid of knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by it's idols; for his molten images are deceitful, and there is no breath in them. They are worthless, a work of mockery, and in the time of their punishment they will perish. (God's wisdom contrasted with man's foolishness)

Man's sin causes God's wrath Christ's blood covers God's wrath!*

John Piper: The wrath of God is God's settled anger toward sin expressed in the repayment of suitable vengeance on the guilty sinner.

J. I. Packer: Divine wrath is God's righteous anger and punishment provoked by sin. It is an attribute of God. •

John MacArthur: God's wrath comes about because God's holiness and love have been violated by the sinfulness of man. Faithfulness to God's word demands that we speak as plainly about God's wrath as God's love.

Ps. 45:6-7 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

Ps. 7:11 God is a righteous judge, And a God who has indignation every day.

A.W. Pink: Scripture paints a fearful and horrifying picture of God's wrath. A study of a concordance will show that there are more references in scripture to the anger, fury, and wrath of God than there are to his love and tenderness. **Ps. 95:10-11** God's divine wrath is clearly established in His word.

Romans 1:18 . . . God's wrath is constantly being revealed from heaven. It has been visible throughout human history.

God's wrath is pure because it is related to His holiness and justice. It is NOT like human wrath. The object of God's wrath is revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.

God's wrath is against sin! **Romans 1:12 MacArthur** states that the worst crime ever committed is the failure to give God glory or credit for who He is. This is the ultimate sin and the major reason for God's wrath.

Selected verses on God's wrath

Nahum 1:2-3, 6 Is. 13:9 Jeremiah 7:20 Matt. 3:12 Rev. 14:10 Rev. 19:15

Four characteristics of the Final Wrath of God

1. The final wrath of God is eternal - having no end
2. The final wrath of God will be terrible - indescribable pain
3. The final wrath of God will be deserved - totally just and right
4. The final wrath of God will have been - escapable

Gal. 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us - for it is written, Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.☞ Christ bore the curse of God's wrath for all who come to Him and believe in Him and Glory in the shelter of His blood and righteousness. To avenge God's wrath we just need to acknowledge Him and believe what He has said in His word.

Jonathan Edwards (1741) Presents the true condition of fallen humanity and the need for salvation in a famous sermon **Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God**. Awake and flee from the WRATH to come!!

Romans 12:19-21 God is on His own schedule and will avenge the evil in His time. We should never avenge others ourselves but leave it to the wrath of God.

William Gurnall (1660) The greatest miracle in the world is God's patience and bounty to an ungrateful world.

Matt.3:7 Flee to Christ and from the wrath to come! We are all sinners and have fallen short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23) We must honor God and give Him all glory that He so truly deserves. Nebuchadnezzar is a great testimony to the power of God . (Daniel 4)

1Thess.1:9-10 Salvation is God's rescue program in Christ - who rescues us from the coming wrath. Human beings by nature are God's enemies and this causes a necessary wrath. But from the beginning, God has purposed to end the human caused wrath through sin by the saving work of Christ. It is through God's love that we are reconciled to Him in His own saving work in the death and life of His son. **Romans 5:9-10 and John 3:16**

Jer. 9:23-24 Daniel 11:32 1 John2:3 1 John 3:14 1 John 3:9 1John 4:7-8

(Verses that help confirm your salvation) *HOW TO BE SURE*

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in the grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The principal prayer and aim of Christians should be that we walk worthy of the Lord, pleasing Him, and being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God. Col. 1:10

Our Awesome God John Mac Arthur

The Attributes of God A.W. Pink

Desiring God John Piper

The Wrath of God Article by Gil Rugh

Man's sin causes God's wrath Christ's blood covers God's wrath!*

Assurance of Salvation

How tragic it would be if we went through life thinking we were saved and then woke up on Judgment Day to find out we were mistaken! But the Bible teaches that this will be the case with many people. Christ said, "Many will say unto Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity" (Matt.7:22-23).

However, we do not have to go through life without the assurance of salvation. In 1 John 5:13 the apostle says, "These things have I written

unto you...that ye may know that ye have eternal life." How then can we have this assurance? This is the most important question we will ever face in life because our eternal destiny is at stake! The Bible teaches that those who remain unsaved will spend eternity in a place of perpetual torment (Matt. 25:46; Rev. 14:9-11). The reason for this is because their sin has not been paid for, and God's perfect justice requires that payment be made for sin (Rom. 6:23). Therefore, it is vital that we know the answer to this question. This is why the Apostle Peter wrote, "Give diligence to make your calling and election sure" (2 Pet. 1:10).

It is true that we must believe in Christ in order to become saved (Acts 16:31), but how can we be sure we have genuinely believed in Him? Certainly we cannot rely upon our feelings since feelings can be misleading. Some might suggest we can be sure by acknowledging the facts of the gospel or saying the sinner's prayer. However, the Bible indicates it is not possible to believe without being regenerated because by nature we are spiritually dead (Eph. 2:1 cf. 1 Cor. 2:14). This is why Christ said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). Therefore, we cannot know we have truly believed until we know we are born again.

But what does it mean to be born again? Is this some kind of emotional experience? No, the Bible teaches that being born again means our life is changed. In 2 Corinthians 5:17 we read, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." The Bible also tells us what changes will take place in our life when we are born again.

First, we will not habitually commit sin.

"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin."—1 John 3:9

"How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer therein?"—Romans 6:2

"Religion, in the spring of it, is not an art, an acquired dexterity and skill, but a new nature. And thereupon the consequence is the regenerate person cannot sin. That he cannot commit an act of sin, I suppose no judicious interpreter understands. This would be contrary to 1 John. 1:9, where it is made our duty to confess our sins, and supposed that our

privilege thereupon is to have our sins forgiven. He therefore cannot sin, in the sense in which the apostle says, he cannot commit sin. He cannot continue in the course and practice of sin. He cannot so sin as to denominate him a sinner in opposition to a saint or servant of God."—Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible, Volume VI

Second, we will seek to live a holy life by obeying God's Word.

"Everyone that doeth righteousness is born of Him."—1 John 2:29

"And hereby do we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments."—1 John 2:3

"Where the righteousness of Christ is imputed to an individual, a principle of holiness is imparted to him; the former can only be ascertained by the latter. It is impossible to obtain a Scriptural knowledge that the merits of Christ's finished work are reckoned to my account, except by proving that the efficacy of the Holy Spirit's work is evident in my soul."—Arthur W. Pink

Third, we will love others, regardless of who they are or what they have done.

"Everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."—1 John 4:7-8

"We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren."—1 John 3:14

"All the fruits of the Spirit which we are to lay weight upon as evidential of grace, are summed up in charity, or Christian love; because this is the sum of all grace. And the only way, therefore, in which any can know their good estate, is by discerning the exercises of this divine charity in their hearts; for without charity, let men have what gifts you please, they are nothing."—Jonathan Edwards

Fourth, our affections will not be upon the things of the world.

"If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."—1 John 2:15

"For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit...But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in

you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His."—Romans. 8:5, 9

"If our principal treasure be as we profess, in things spiritual and heavenly, and woe unto us if it be not so! on them will our affections, and consequently our desires and thoughts, be principally fixed."—John Owen

These changes are not the cause of our salvation for we are saved by faith (Eph. 2:8-9). But rather, they are the evidence that we truly have been born again. If they have not taken place in our life, then it is vital that we earnestly seek God and implore Him to regenerate us. He promises we will find Him if we seek Him with all our heart (Deut. 4:29), and the way to begin is by reading His Word. The Bible says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Rom. 10:17).

Further reading:

Assurance by Arthur W. Pink

What Is a Biblical Christian? by Albert N. Martin

Are You Born Again? by J. C. Ryle