

9/18/22

## Sermon – The Wrath of God (part 2)

Scripture – Psalm 78:27- 42, John 3:16-21 & 36, Philippians 2:12

**Main Message – The wrath of God is not something to dismiss, take lightly or ignore, but to avoid at all costs by believing in Jesus Christ.**

The wrath of God is mentioned throughout the Bible. His wrath is poured out time and time again in the past and will be again in the future. All of humanity is under the doom of God's wrath and there is only one way to avoid it. God's wrath is not us dying by accident, sickness, or murder. That is what we endure because of the wages of sin and living in a fallen world. But first....

Unfortunately, even those who have seen God's power working in the world and in their lives dismiss it for the life they want to live. Dismissing the reality of God's Holiness and Righteousness and HIS GLORIOUS PERFECTION is not wise. But we always think we are wise.

**Read Psalm 78.** Israelites, brought out of Egypt sang God's praises as they left behind Pharaoh and his Army. They feared until after they crossed the Red Sea, then they sang HIS praises, but when the food got boring and they desired things other than God's provision, God gave them an abundance of quail. Their continuous lack of faith and desire for something *other* than God brought down His anger, His Wrath, and this cycle happened time and time again.

Vs. 36 really stood out to me. We can sing God's praises, praise His name, but still not be right with the Lord. We must be careful not to deceive ourselves by flattering words that lack true sincerity and staying steadfast in His Covenant.

Vs. 38. He is a Merciful God or we would all be turned to ash. The fulness of his wrath did not come against them.

Vs 40. In a sense, we are still walking in the wilderness of this world. We also must be careful not to Grieve our Lord by living lives that do not represent him.

We must be careful not to depend only on God's mercy and live how we want to live. It didn't work for the Israelites and it's not going to work for us. That is why we have these lessons. It is arrogant to think we could not fall into that same trap.

Like I said at the beginning, there is only one way to avoid God's wrath. Don't confuse God's wrath with the issues common to us all with sin. The wages of sin is death and we all have sinned. The only way to avoid God's wrath is to **obey** His Covenant. He is merciful and long-suffering, because he knows our flesh condemns us to trouble, but he expects us to **OBEY**. The Israelites wanted a savior. They wanted to escape the slavery they had in Egypt. Once they got it they turned to their own ways. They broke the law that God had given them.

Well, we have a New Covenant given to us by Jesus which we must obey to escape the wrath of God. Are you certain in your own heart that you know it. You can't do the flattering talk, or the occasional tithe, or whatever you purpose in your own heart that make you feel good. The standard is God's required perfection.

**Read John 3:14 – 21.** I'm fairly certain most everyone could recite John 3:16, but I am equally certain that few understand this dialogue between Nicodemus and Jesus and its implications. Your belief cannot stop at the desire of a savior alone. Your belief must embody Jesus as Lord and that your deeds are in evidence. If I have put some doubt in your heart, good! Paul himself said this to the **Philippians 2:12** Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. A first step may be to recommitting to the Lord in even a more increasing way.