

THE FATHER
Part 3: HIS WRATH
February 2, 2020

"We know that there is only one God, the Father, who created everything, and we exist for Him."
I Corinthians 8:6 (NLT)

WHAT DOES GOD'S WRATH MEAN?

"The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died."
Exodus 32:28 (NIV)

"The LORD said to Moses, "Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I will write on them the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. Be ready in the morning, and then come up on Mount Sinai. Present yourself to Me there on top of the mountain ... So Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning, as the LORD had commanded him; and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed His name, the Lord. And He passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished."
Exodus 34:1-2, 4-7 (NIV)

1. **HOLINESS = GOD'S ABSOLUTE _____, AND**
_____ FROM THE _____ OF
_____.

"Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing." Habakkuk 1:13 (NLT)

2. **JUSTICE (GENERAL) = _____, DOING IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES**
THAT WHICH IS _____ AND _____. JUSTICE IS SIMPLY
GOD'S _____ IN _____.

"For the LORD is righteous, He loves justice; the upright will see His face." Psalms 11:7 (NIV)

3. **WRATH = THE _____,**
_____ REACTION OF A HOLY GOD AGAINST ALL
_____ HIM AND _____ AGAINST HIM. THE
RESULT OF GOD'S WRATH IS _____,
AND _____. IT IS THE _____ OF GOD'S JUSTICE.

• **Two Expressions Of God's Judgment:**

- a. _____ - e.g. **Old Testament: The Flood, Sodom and Gomorrah.**
e.g. **New Testament: The Cross, Hell**

"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes One who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will clear His threshing floor, gathering His wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire." Matthew 3:11-12 (NIV)

"Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name and in Your name drive out demons and in Your name perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!'" Matthew 7:22-23 (NIV)

- b. _____.

"The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them." Romans 1:18-19 (NIV)

"For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another ... Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones ... Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done." Romans 1:21-24, 26, 28 (NIV)

**WHY THE WRATH OF GOD MATTERS
AN UNDERSTANDING OF WRATH IS CRUCIAL FOR:**

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire." Hebrews 12:28-29 (NIV)

1. **KNOWING THE _____ AND _____ OF GOD.**

"Whoever spares the rod hates their children, but the one who loves their children is careful to discipline them." Proverbs 13:24 (NIV)

2. **A _____ OF MYSELF.**

"As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one;" Romans 3:10 (NIV)

3. LIVING AT _____ IN THE _____.

"Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord."
Romans 12:19 (NIV)

"My thesis that the practice of nonviolence requires a belief in divine vengeance will be unpopular with many Christians, especially theologians in the West. To the person who is inclined to dismiss it, I suggest imagining that you are delivering a lecture in a war zone (which is where a paper that underlies this chapter was originally delivered). Among your listeners are people whose cities and villages have been first plundered, then burned and leveled to the ground, whose daughters and sisters have been raped, whose fathers and brothers have had their throats slit. The topic of the lecture: a Christian attitude toward violence. The thesis: we should not retaliate since God is perfect noncoercive love. Soon you would discover that it takes the quiet of a suburban home for the birth of the thesis that human nonviolence corresponds to God's refusal to judge. In a scorched land, soaked in blood of the innocent, it will invariably die. And as one watches it die, one will do well to reflect about many other pleasant captivities of the liberal mind."

Miroslav Volf, Exclusion And Embrace.

NEXT STEPS

1. Grapple with the quote by Miroslav Volf. Do you believe that God's holiness, Justice and love necessitate the concept of wrath?
2. **CLASS 101 - Today** immediately after second service.
3. Pray for Pastor Pierre and our brothers and sisters in the LaCroix New Testament Mission, Haiti.
 - Pick-up prayer bracelet from our ushers.
4. GET Started Life Group begins next Sunday. Sign-up by checking the box on your CONNECT CARD.