

SUBJECT: THE WRATH OF GOD
SCRIPTURE: EPHESIANS 5:6. Let no man deceive you with vain words; for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

INTRODUCTION

- Christians are warned not to be deceived. This warning discloses that there is the possibility for a Believer to become deceived.

From Ephesians 5:6, it is revealed that this particular deception would come through “vain words,” especially words in relationship with the sins mentioned in Ephesians 5:3 – 5.

Believers are to have the knowledge that “these things” lead to God’s wrath.

As Eve was deceived by the Serpent through vain words, we must be aware that the Serpent still seeks to deceive and destroy through this same method.

(See Genesis 3:1 – 6; Matthew 24:4; 1Timothy 2:14)

- The scriptures reveal many aspects of the triune God. It is important for the Believer to know that God is not only a God of love, patience, peace, etc., but that He equally is a God of judgment, indignation, anger, wrath, etc.

In order to worship God properly, we need to have a balanced view of His attributes. God is the God of peace, love joy, mercy, etc., but He is also the God of judgment, indignation, anger and wrath. The scriptures reveal to us both of these aspects of God’s nature.

WRATH DEFINED

God’s wrath is His hatred of all unrighteousness. It is the holiness of God stirred into activity against sin. God’s wrath is His anger and fury in manifestation. (God is angry and wrathful against sin because sin is a rebellion of His Person, His Word and His authority.)

GOD’S WRATH AND THE SINNER

Currently, in this Day of Grace, God is “right-now” angry with the wicked. This anger stems from the sinner’s rejection of:

- God’s gift to the world – His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ
- Jesus’ invitation to come to Him and receive life
- The way of righteousness (thereby, professing a love for sin)

- Psalm 7:11. God judgeth the righteous, and **God is angry with the wicked every day.**
- Isaiah 55:7. **Let the wicked forsake his way,** and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the LORD, and He will have mercy upon Him; and to our God; for He will abundantly pardon.
- John 3:19. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and **men loved darkness rather than light,** because their deeds were evil.
- John 3:36. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but **the wrath of God abideth on him.**
- Romans 1:18. For **the wrath of God** is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.

THE DAY OF SALVATION vs. THE DAY OF WRATH

- The Day of Salvation

- Isaiah 55:1, 6. Ho, everyone that thirsteth, **come to the waters,** and he that hath no money; **come, buy and eat; yea, come,** buy wine and milk without money and without price ... Seek ye the LORD **while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near.**
- 2 Corinthians 6:2. For He saith, I have heard thee **in a time accepted,** and **in the day of salvation** have I helped thee; behold, **now is the accepted time;** behold, **now is the day of salvation.**

Since the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, the invitation is extended to everyone to come to Christ and receive life, through faith in His shed blood as the payment for sin.

The Day of Salvation is NOW. The door of salvation is presently open for anyone to pass through. However, this Day of Salvation is only for a limited time. The time is coming when salvation's door will be closed; and then give way to the Day of God's Wrath.

- The Day of Wrath

- Zephaniah 1:14 – 18. The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteneth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD; the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. That day is **a day of wrath,** a day of trouble and distress, a day of waste and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness. A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, **because they have sinned against the LORD;** and their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like the dung. Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in **the day of the LORD's wrath,** but the whole land

shall be devoured by the fire of His jealousy; for He shall make even a speedy riddance of all those who dwell in the land.

- Revelation 6:15 – 17. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every slave, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains, And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from **the wrath of the Lamb; For the great day of His wrath is come**, and who shall be able to stand?

AN EXAMPLE OF BOTH THE DAY OF SALVATION AND THE DAY OF WRATH

- Proverbs 1: 20 – 33. Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying, How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: ³⁰They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. ³³But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

GOD'S REMOVAL OF HIS SAINTS BEFORE HE BRINGS JUDGMENT UPON THE UNGODLY

From the following scriptures, we see that before God brings judgment upon the world of the ungodly, He always removes His people.

- Romans 5:9. Much more then, being now justified by His blood, **we shall be saved from wrath** through Him.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:9. For God hath not **appointed us to wrath** but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.

The following passages of scripture are given as examples of God removing and separating His people before He brings judgment upon the ungodly:

- NOAH/Genesis 7:21 – 23. And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man: All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died. And **every living substance was destroyed** which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and **Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.**
- LOT/Genesis 19:15, 16, 24, 25. And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; **lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.** And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: **and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. Then the LORD rained** upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.
- RAHAB/Joshua 6:22 – 25. But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her. And the young men that were spies went in, and **brought out Rahab**, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel. **And they burnt the city with fire**, and all that was therein: only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD. **And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day;** because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

©1994, 2012 "God's Word, Alive!"

Permission is granted for non-commercial (free) distribution provided this notice appears.

"God's Word, Alive!" P.O. Box 34215; Omaha, NE 68134

www.godswordalive.NET