

Wrath: Pt 2 The wrath of God

This is our second study from the scriptures on wrath. And in this first teaching we searched the scripture for what they say on the wrath of man and we established three points– (1) a fool and his wrath, 2) the wrath of the Pharisees against the Son of God , (3) the wrath of the Pharisees was against the Son of God. in this teaching we establish an additional three points – (i) Israel provoked God to wrath, and (ii) the wrath of God is upon the ungodly in their lifetime, and (iii) the wrath of God to come will also be upon the children of disobedience – tribulation and hell fire.

1. Israel provoked God to wrath

“For thus saith the Lord of hosts; As I thought to punish you, when your fathers provoked me to wrath, saith the Lord of hosts, and I repented not” (Zech.8: 14)

2. The wrath of God is upon the ungodly in their lifetime

“Did not Achan the son of Zerah commit a trespass in the accursed thing, and wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel?” (Josh.22:20).

3. The wrath of God to come will be upon the children of disobedience

“Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience” (Eph.5: 6).

Illustration

There is often depicted two different natures of God – in the OT the God of wrath, and in the NT the God of love – given by the Father in His Son. But this is a fallacy from those who are ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. For God is the same yesterday today and tomorrow. He is wrathful, He is angry with the wicked every day, and there is God’s wrath for those who reject His Son!

Questions of the scriptures

- i) In relation to God’s wrath, what is the difference between those who obeyed not the word of the Lord in the Old Testament and today?
- ii) In what way will Christians NOT see the wrath of God in the future?

Answers from the scriptures

i) In the Old Testament – when Israel provoked God to wrath he opened up the earth “But if the Lord make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the Lord. [33] They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation” (Num.16:30, 33)

Whereas in this age he “that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (Jn.3: 36) until he takes his last breath then he goes to hell. But God’s grace extends to the ungodly until his last breath – where he can choose to receive and believe the gospel.

ii) Christians are NOT appointed to wrath but to obtain salvation by Jesus Christ “For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thes.5: 9)

Christians will not see the great tribulation because they are not appointed to wrath, and have escaped the pit of hell. But “he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God” (Jn.3: 18). Let us beseech the lost to escape the wrath of God and receive His Son.