

Ephesians 2:1-3

The Wrath and Mercy of God:

Part One

April 1, 2007

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Preliminary Point One:

We must not approach the subject of the wrath of God disinterestedly.

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Preliminary Point Two:

We must always hold the doctrine of the wrath of God in balance and tension with the doctrine of the mercy of God, and vice versa.

- Ephesians 2:3-5**
- Deuteronomy 7:9-11**

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What is the wrath of God?

“Righteous anger is the mind arousing itself for the restraining of evil; wrath is the expression of this anger in various ways to restrain evil, to correct the sinner, and to punish the hardened and stiff-necked rebel.” Lactantius

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My version of his definition:

“Righteous anger is the mind arousing itself for the vindication of glory and the restraining of evil; wrath is the expression of this anger in various ways to vindicate the glory of God, to restrain evil, to correct the sinner, and to punish the hardened and stiff-necked rebel.” Lactantius

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Point One:

Our primary problem is a wrath problem and Jesus saves us, not mainly from Satan, but from God the Father.

John 3:36, Rom 2:6-8, Eph 5:6, Col 3:6,
2 Thes 1:5-10, Rev 19:11-16, Rom 5:9,
1 Thes 1:9-10, 1 Thes 5:8-10.

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Point Two:

The wrath of God is terrible!

- Nahum 1:6-8
- Revelation 6:15-17

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Point Three:

The wrath of God is just, and his judgments are right and true.

– Revelation 16:5-7

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Point Four:

The wrath of God evokes worship and rejoicing in the hearts of the children of God.

- Revelation 11:15-18
- Revelation 15:1, 3-4
- Revelation 16:5-7

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Why do God's children worship and rejoice at his wrath?

- Because God's deeds are great and amazing
- Because God is holy and his ways are just and true
- Because the day is coming when every knee will bow and worship this great and awesome and gracious God