God's Wrath

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE III Romans 1:18-32

Three Questions Regarding God's Wrath:

- 1. What is it?
- 2. Why is it required? (What makes God angry?)
 - Suppressing God's _____ (v.18-19)
 - Ignoring God's _____ (v.20-24a)
 - Perverting God's _____ (v.23-27)
 - How a Culture Crumbles (Romans 1:21-32):
 - Step 1: _____ God (vs 21)
 - Step 2: _____ God (vs 22-23)
 - Step 3: Set aside all _____ (vs 24-27)
 - Step 4: Set aside all _____ (vs 28-31)
 - Step 5: ______ & _____ sin (vs 32)
- 3. How God's Wrath Is Revealed (*Three Ways*):
 - God's _____Wrath
 - God's _____ Wrath
 - God's _____ Wrath

"...anyone who believes in God's Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn't obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God's angry judgment." – John 3:36

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: The Wrath of God Message: Part 2 – God's Wrath Speaker: Shawn Vandop Date: April 10, 2022



Connect (20min)

- 1. HIGH/LOW: Share 1 High & 1 Low from this past week in your life.
- **2.** APRIL CHECK-IN: Using a scale of 1-10 (poor-excellent) How is your...?
 a. Physical Health
 b. Mental Health
 c. Spiritual Health
- 3. OPEN UP III Read Psalm 30. Respond with Praise to God & Prayer for One Another.

Message Discussion (45min)

1. GOOD NEWS

[Optional Video: The Bible Project - Slow To Anger]

*Before we get into a discussion on *God's Wrath* let's read III Romans 1:8-17.

This is Paul sharing the GOOD NEWS before the BAD NEWS. God and His gospel cannot be truly glorious to us without a profound understanding of our real problem. Can you think of an example of something in your life where the good news you received was made better and more powerful because of the bad news you heard?

2. MESSAGE FEEDBACK

a. How were you *encouraged, challenged or changed* through Sunday's Message?b. What have you learned so far about God's Wrath? How is His wrath/anger different from ours? Discuss.

3. WORD -- Read 🛄 Romans 1:18-32

- What jumps out at you from this passage? What are the key things that Paul is trying to share?
 What do we learn about God from this passage & what do we learn about people/humanity?0
- **b.** In what ways do you see Paul's description of unrighteousness in our world today?
- In what ways have you seen unbelievers convey truth about God (see v.18-20)?
 maybe through film, art, music, conversation, social justice...

4. THE CHALLENGE OF WRATH

a. Do you find it difficult to accept that God reveals wrath against those who reject Him? Why or why not?
b. Shawn explained that "To suppress God's truth is to willingly ignore it for the sake of living your life the way you want to, rather than the way God wants to." What are some ways we do this as humanity?

5. WITHOUT EXCUSE

 a. What does it mean to be "without excuse" (v.20), and why is this important for how anyone understands the gospel? **b.** Paul uses the argument from *Design* to explain how people can know God is real (<u>Romans 1:20-24</u>). This is called the "<u>teleological argument</u>," and implies that the appearance of design and purpose in nature implies a *Designer*.

i. How has God's Creation revealed His existence to you?

ii. Why do you think people ignore this evidence for God? Discuss.

c. Paul describes *Idolatry* in terms of how it developed in his time -- wooden statues, and false gods (v.23).

i. What are some of the ways that our culture expresses idolatry today? Read 🛄 1 John 2:15-17.

ii. How do we worship created things rather than the Creator?

iii. Where in your life have you seen yourself living for created things instead of the Creator?

6. HUMAN HISTORY

The Bible does not teach that humans started low and climbed higher but that they started high (perfect in the Garden) and then sank lower and lower into sin. **Read** \square <u>Romans 1:21-32</u>.

a. Does Paul give an accurate description of how sin destroys people and culture? Is this list true in our culture?
b. In <u>Romans 1:24-26, 28</u> -- Paul says "God gave them up (or abandon them)..."

i. What does this tell us about God?

ii. What does this tell us about humans?

iii. How does this make you feel about sin in your own life?

c. According to *C.S. Lewis*, God's judgment is not about a vindictive, malicious God tormenting innocent people. Instead, Lewis metaphorically states, *"There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, in the end, 'Thy will be done.'"* (<u>The Great Divorce</u>)

*How have you seen God's wrath at work in your own life? In your family? In our city/province/country/world?

Application & Prayer (20min)

RECAP

a. What is one thing you've learned about God's anger & wrath through this series that will spur you on in your spiritual relationship with God and encourage your witness for the Gospel (The Good News of Jesus)?

b. Read 🛄 John 3:36

"...anyone who believes in God's Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn't obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God's angry judgment." – Jesus

c. Do you believe in God's Son – Jesus?

If so, celebrate and thank God that you have eternal life, and are not under the wrath of God.

PRAY TOGETHER - Break into groups of 3-4 people or Men/Women. In response...how can we PRAY FOR YOU?

PROJECT 3:15

*Encourage your Life Group to sign up for our upcoming **Apologetics Conference** – **PROJECT 3:15**. Visit <u>www.mainstreetchurch.ca/project315</u> Commit to attending as a group, and if you have Teenagers or Young Adults encourage (and pay for \bigcirc) them to attend. **RESOURCES**

Scripture: www.openbible.info/topics/wrath_of_god. Video: The Bible Project - Slow To Anger