

## Foundations I – 10/06/24

### The Attributes of God

#### Character qualities that uniquely define God

- Each of God's attributes represent the entirety of the Godhead (Father, Son, and Spirit).
- The differences lay in their roles, functions, and actions (1 John 5:12; 1 Cor. 12:3; Gen. 1:2).
- What you know and believe about God inevitably becomes the lens through which you see everything else in life.
- If we are to truly serve, worship, and honor God, we must have an accurate understanding of His nature.

### The Wrath of God

*Behold the storm of the Lord! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. The fierce anger of the Lord will not turn back until He has executed and accomplished the intentions of His mind. In the latter days you will understand this.*

Jeremiah 30:23-24

#### • What it Means

- *Hē-mah* (Hebrew) – fury, anger, heat, rage, venom.
- *Orgē* (Greek) – heavy breathing.
- The holiness of God demands that He be angered by sin.
- God is not passive or indifferent to evil (Luke 12:5).
- God's wrath is His response to sin (Hebrews 10:31).
- **Without His wrath, God's love would not be righteous.**
- For God to hate sin has everything to do with the integrity of His character (Rom. 1:18; 9:22).
- The wrath of God is His eternal indignation with all unrighteousness.
- Every attribute of God is perfect, including His wrath (1 John 1:5).

#### • How it is Manifest

There are 470 references to God's wrath in Scripture:

##### 1. In Creation

- Psalm 7:11; 95:11; Rom. 2:5; Rev. 6:16.
- The Flood (Gen. 6:9-13; 17-18; Heb. 10:31).
- Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 19:23-29; Deut. 32:43; Heb. 10:31).
- The Plagues in Egypt (Ex. 7-11. Heb. 10:31).

## 2. At the Cross

- Psalm 1:5; 130:3; Heb. 10:31.
- The cup of God's wrath was poured out at the cross (Mark 14:32-36).
- Sin is so serious to God that even God in the flesh agonized before taking upon Himself the just punishment for it (Heb. 5:7; Matt. 3:7; Luke 12:5).
- At the cross marks the moment God's wrath and mercy met for the sake of His glory.
- The sacrifice of Christ ensures that God's redemption is both loving and righteous.

### • **Saved From What?**

- We are saved by God, through God, from God and for God (Isaiah 59:18, 20; 1 Peter 2:24)
- At the Cross, the most violent expression of God's wrath and justice was taken upon the Only One able to say: "Today, you will be with me in paradise."
- **The Gospel is good news only to those who understand the bad news of their sinful condition.**
- God's wrath serves the purposes of His love (John 3:16).

### • **Questions**

1. What comes to your mind when you think about the wrath of God?
2. What should our response be to the awareness of God's wrath against our sins?

### **Recommended Books:**

1. **Jonathan Edwards, *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1741.**
2. J. I. Packer, *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2008.
3. J. C. Ryle, *Holiness*. Edinburgh, UK: Banner of Truth, 1877.
4. R. C. Sproul, *The Holiness of God*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale Publishers, 1985.
5. A. W. Pink, *The Attributes of God*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books. 1975.
6. A. W. Pink, *The Sovereignty of God*. Blacksburg, VA: Wilder Publications. 2008.
7. A. W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*. New York, NY: Harper One. 1961.