

Flee from the Wrath to Come

Matthew 3:1-17

April 21, 2013

Main Point:

Nothing can save you from the wrath to come except the Son of God; therefore, repent of your sins and flee to the One who came to live and die in your place.

1. John the Baptist prepared the way for the arrival of King Jesus.
2. King Jesus will come again to judge the unrepentant.
3. Your good works and relationship to the church cannot save you from the wrath of God.
4. Only the Son of God can save you from the wrath of God.
5. Repent of your sins and flee to the One who came to live and die in your place.

Quotations and Cross-References

Malachi 4:5-6⁵ Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.⁶ And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse." (NKJV)

Luke 1:15-17¹⁵ "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.¹⁶ "And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God.¹⁷ "He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, `to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." (NKJV)

Matthew 25:31-33, 41, 46³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.³² "All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats.³³ "And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, `Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world ...⁴¹ "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, `Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels ...⁴⁶ "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." (NKJV)

John 3:36b³⁶ ... he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (NKJV)

Dan Doriani "John gives a reason for repenting. The kingdom is coming, the Lord is coming, and he brings judgment with him."

Galatians 2:16b¹⁶ ... for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. (NKJV)

John Legg "Here he [Jesus] identified himself with his people and their sin, making clear that, as God's obedient and righteous Servant, he would do whatever was necessary to provide a righteousness for them and for their salvation."

Isaiah 61:1¹ "The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound. (NKJV)

J.C. Ryle "He [God the Father] proclaims, that he accepts him [Jesus] as the Mediator between God and man; he publishes to the world that he is satisfied with him as the propitiation, the substitute, the ransom-payer for the lost family of Adam, and the Head of a redeemed people. In him he sees his holy 'law magnified and made honorable:' through him he can 'be just and yet the justifier of the ungodly.'"

John 14:6⁶ ... "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (NKJV)

Matthew 24:36-39, 42-44³⁶ "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.³⁷ "But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.³⁸ "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,³⁹ "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be ...⁴² "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.⁴³ "But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.⁴⁴ "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. (NKJV)

James 4:14¹⁴ ... you do not know what *will happen* tomorrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. (NKJV)

Hebrews 9:27²⁷ ... it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment (NKJV).