

Morning Sermon June 7, 2015
"God's Righteous Wrath" Romans 1:18

Why do we NEED the gospel Paul introduces in Romans 1:1-17?
We need the Gospel --- FOR the wrath of God is revealed...
You NEED the Gospel because God's guns are aimed at you,
sinner!

I. How is God's wrath revealed from Heaven?

1. First, literally, from Heaven –

A. The great flood

⁴ "... I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and I will destroy from the face of the earth all living things that I have made." (Genesis 7:4 NKJ)

B. The destruction of Sodom –

²⁴ Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the LORD out of the heavens. (Genesis 19:24 NKJ)

C. Hail, one of the plagues God brought on Egypt –

²³ And Moses stretched out his rod toward heaven; and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and fire darted to the ground. And the LORD rained hail on the land of Egypt. (Exodus 9:23 NKJ)

2. Second, from Heaven, meaning from God in Heaven –

A. God reveals His wrath in Scripture; Scripture tells us clearly God punishes sin – From Genesis – before sin even began, God warned -¹⁷ "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Genesis 2:17 NKJ) (see Genesis 5, 7, 19 etc...)

"In the Old Testament, more than 20 words are used to describe the wrath of God, and these words are used in their various forms a total of 580 times. Time and again, the prophets spoke with vivid imagery to describe God's wrath unleashed upon wickedness." Steven Lawson

To Revelation –¹⁰ "he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. ... (Revelation 14:10-11 NKJ)

B. His Son, Jesus warns us about God's wrath in Hell – (Matthew 5:29-30 NKJ)

C. God communicates a sense of wrath to our conscience –
¹⁴ for when Gentiles, ... show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, ... (Romans 2:14-15 NKJ)

D. God reveals His wrath through our pains, illnesses and difficulties –

²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. (Romans 1:27 NKJ)

³⁹ Why should a living man complain, A man for the punishment of his sins? (Lamentations 3:39 NKJ)

E. God's wrath is revealed in true preaching of the Gospel.
John the Baptist preached -

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? (Matthew 3:7 NKJ)

F. God's wrath was revealed in the events of the Gospel –

⁴⁵ ... Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Matthew 27:45-46 NKJ)

II. What God's wrath is revealed against –
against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, Romans 1:18

1. "All" every sin deserves God's wrath –

2. Ungodliness – those sins committed directly against God –

A. Having another "god" or other "gods" before God – Exodus 20:3

B. Having a false concept of the True God, knowing Him through or worshipping Him, with images – Exodus 20:4-6

C. Taking God's Name in vain – Exodus 20:7

D. Not remembering the Sabbath, and of course God on the Sabbath – Exodus 20:8-11

E. Not Loving God with all your heart, soul, mind and might -

3. Unrighteousness refers to those sins we commit against each other, these sins are also, though less directly, against God –

- A. Not honoring our father and mother – Exodus 20:12
- B. Murder – Exodus 20:13
- C. Adultery – Exodus 20:14
- D. Stealing – Exodus 20:15
- E. Bearing false witness (or lying) – Exodus 20:16
- F. Coveting – Exodus 20:17
- G. Not loving your neighbor as yourself-

See **(Matthew 22:36-40 NKJ)** and compare it to **(Romans 13:8-10 NKJ)**

How does Jesus sum up God's commandments? LOVE, Love for God and love for your neighbor. How is love explained in detail? You love your neighbor when you don't steal his car, don't sleep with his wife, don't lie about, don't covet and don't murder him or her!

How do you love God? By not having other gods before Him, by knowing Him well enough you are not worshipping a false image of Him, by respecting His Holy Name and setting aside at least one day a week to His worship!

Love is a crazy, irrational thing to a lost, atheistic world, it is something they FALL INTO, but God's Word defines LOVE – (1Corinthians 13:4-8 NKJ)

If you understand the Biblical definition of love, being ungodly and unrighteous is the same as being unloving! Scripture tells us "God is Love" 1 John 4:8 Sin, going against God's law is never "loving"... sin deserves God's wrath – SEE the Bunyan poem on your bulletin cover!

III. Why is God so all fire and flames against sin?

1. Sin destroys us and God's image in us –

How were we created? In God's image, male and female! Genesis 1:26-28

We were created in God's image with knowledge, righteousness and holiness, but sin changed our knowledge (of God) into ignorance, our righteousness into sin (even every kind) and our holiness (are devotion to the One True God) into idolatry ...

Sin confuses us even about how God made us, male and female and about His purposes for our two genders.

2. Sin makes us lie and distort the truth –

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, (Romans 1:18 NKJ)

A. Sin makes us distort the truth about OURSELVES – (Revelation 3:14-22 NKJ)

¹⁷ "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'-- and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked-- (Revelation 3:17 NKJ)

- A. We compare ourselves to others instead of God's standard
- B. We value ourselves in regard to the material more than the spiritual and moral
- C. We tend to be satisfied with the most pleasant, rather than truthful diagnosis of our condition –

¹³ "Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone is given to covetousness; And from the prophet even to the priest, Everyone deals falsely. ¹⁴ They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace. (Jeremiah 6:13-14 NKJ)

And THESE are just the LIES that the churches tell!

*3. The lies of an UNGODLY WORLD are even greater – Evolution denies God created us!
Atheism denies he exists!
Global Warming denies He controls the weather!
Feminism denies His design in making women!*

*What these all try to do is suppress the TRUTH in unrighteousness –
*The truth about our sad and sinful condition
*The truth about God's willingness and ability to save us
The truth about who we really are and Who and what God is

*Yet, the TRUTH will not be denied, Jesus is the TRUTH – Revelation 3:14
... He is coming back!*

Arnold A. Brevick