

PAX ROMANA

Pastor Ray Swash

Does God get 'Ticked off'?

Romans 1.18-25

Just what is 'The Wrath of God?'

"If righteousness displays our 'restored' relationship with God, than sin demonstrates our rebellion (broken relationship) to God. However it is our nature that defines us, not simply our actions."

"In Christ, God is love. Outside Christ, 'Our God is a consuming fire'"
Martin Luther

Two understandings [theologies] regard God, anger and wrath:

A) Sin punishes _____:

- the wages of sin is death - Romans 6.23
- one reaps what one sows - Galatians 6.7

NOTE: 'wrath' never carries with an emotion, expression or attitude towards us from God, but the process and effect are an objective reality."

RESULT: 'sin' is its own punishment!

"The word wrath, referring to God in human terms as is usual in scripture implies no emotion in God, but has reference only to the feelings of the sinner who is punished."

John Calvin

B) Sin is punished by _____:

- Then the Lord rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the Lord out of the heavens - Genesis 19.24
- How could you agree to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also - Acts 5.9

NOTE: 'wrath' never carries with an emotion, expression or attitude towards us from God, but the process and effect are an objective reality."

RESULT: God is the impartial judge and will deal with sin!

"For God to spare them [sinners] the consequences of their choice of unworthy lords would be to encourage them in self-destructive folly. God loves his creation too much to be an enabler."

William M. Greathouse

Could it be, both understandings [theologies] share truth together?

Love & Wrath—Righteousness & Mercy

A walk through the text . . .

The wrath of God is **being revealed from heaven** against all the godlessness and wickedness of **men who suppress the truth by their wickedness**, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that **men are without excuse**.

For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although **they claimed to be wise, they became fools** and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They **exchanged** the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.