Romans 1:18-20 Revelation the Wrath of God (or God's Wrath Revealed) Sunday Evening June 4, 2023 Paul Chappell

Romans 1:18-20: <sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; <sup>19</sup> Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed [it] unto them. <sup>20</sup> For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

#### I. Introduction

- A. Gospel revealed
  - 1. Rom 1:16 Paul says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God to salvation to everyone who believes."
    - a. "power" from Greek word dunamis
    - b. English word dynamite comes from Greek word dunamis
    - c. Gospel is powerful life changing message from God
    - d. God can save anyone
  - 2. God reveals His holy & righteous character (Rom 1:17)
    - a. The just people shall live by faith
    - b. Faith in the one true God
    - c. God's holiness & righteousness revealed in stages "from faith to faith"
- B. In contrast, God's opposes the sins that humans commit
  - 1. God cannot look on sin
    - Habbakuk 1:13: [Thou art] of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, [and] holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth [the man that is] more righteous than he?
  - 2. Serve the holy God. If not, then God will not forgive your sins.
    - Josua 24:19 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he [is] an holy God; he [is] a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.
  - 3. God justified in revealing His wrath & anger against sin

# II. God's Wrath Displayed

- A. Man's condition under the curse of sin
  - 1. Word "for" means "because"
  - 2. God's wrath is revealed because He also revealed His gospel message to avoid His anger
- B. God's Wrath displayed in contrast
  - 1. In contrast with the gospel which brings forgiveness & freedom
  - 2. In contrast to God's grace & love (John 3:16)
  - 3. Source of God's wrath
    - a. Human race under curse of sin

John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

- b. Humans themselves become angry against murder, sexual cheating, & thievery.
- c. God's act of wrath comes from His righteousness

Proverbs 6:16-19: <sup>16</sup> These six [things] doth the LORD hate: yea, seven [are] an abomination unto him: <sup>17</sup> A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, <sup>18</sup> An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, <sup>19</sup> A false witness [that] speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

- 4. Revelation of God's wrath
  - a. God tells humans of His wrath & judgement
  - b. God knows all of human thoughts, intents, & behaviors
  - c. All human actions known & recorded in God's books
- C. God's Wrath displayed in continuation
  - 1. Human ungodliness
    - a. Humans continue to resist God's truth
    - b. Humans have an anti-God attitude (Romans 3:10-12, 18)

Romans 3:10-12, 18: <sup>10</sup> As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: <sup>11</sup> There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. <sup>12</sup> They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. ... <sup>18</sup> There is no fear of God before their eyes.

- 2. Human unrighteousness
  - a. Wicked conduct, wrong doing
  - b. Ten Commandments show human unrighteousness
    - Murder, sexual cheating, stealing, no false witness, no greediness
    - ii. These actions do not show "loving your neighbor as vourself"
  - c. Humans holding God's truth for their own sinful purposes

#### III. God's Nature Discerned

- A. God's nature manifested (revealed)
  - 1. Inside each human
    - a. How internally revealed? Inner conscience

Romans 2:15 Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and [their] thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

- 2. Inner sense of fairness (justice), and "good & bad" (right & wrong)
- B. God's nature revealed personally
  - 1. Special revelation revealed in Scriptures (God's Word)
  - 2. All humans are of one blood, and their geographic boundaries predetermined (Acts 17:26)
  - 3. Enmity between Serpent & woman's "seed" (descendent)

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

- a. Woman's seed confirmed as Abraham's seed (Genesis 22:18)
- b. And Abraham's seed is Christ Himself (Galatians 3:16)
- c. And what did Christ do for all people? God has redeemed us from the curse of the law (Galatians 3:13
- 4. Both Old & New Testaments shows God's plan of salvation to all

1 Corinthians 15:1, 3-7: <sup>1</sup> Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; ... <sup>3</sup> For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; <sup>4</sup> And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: <sup>5</sup> And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: <sup>6</sup> After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present,

but some are fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

## IV. God's Verdict Declared

- A. God seen in creation
  - 1. General revelation of God' in nature
    - a. God's invisible nature clearly seen & understood
    - b. God's eternal power (dunamis)
    - c. His deity (Godhead)

Acts 17:24, 27: <sup>24</sup> God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; ... <sup>27</sup> That they [people] should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

## 2. God's creation shows God's glory

Psalm 19:1-3: <sup>1</sup> [To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.] The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. <sup>2</sup> Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. <sup>3</sup> [There is] no speech nor language, [where] their voice is not heard.

3. People indulging in such behavior with pleasure

Romans 1:32: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

## B. Judgement Day –humans without excuse

Hebrews 9:27: And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

- 2 Thessalonians 2:10: And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.
- 2 Corinthians 5:10: For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things [done] in [his] body, according to that he hath done, whether [it be] good or bad.