

God Is Angry With The Wicked

It's commonly said in Christian circles that God hates the sin but loves the sinner. This has caused many people to believe that God isn't actually angry with the wicked – but that's *not* what the Bible teaches.

There should be no doubt in anyone's mind that God hates sin. However, the Bible also tells us that God is angry with the wicked:

Psalm 7:11: “God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day.”

In fact, it goes further than that. Not only is God angry with the wicked, but He actually *hates* them:

Psalm 11:5: “The Lord trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.”

God hates the wicked things that people do *and* the wicked people who do them:

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

When we consider the great love of God, it's easy to overlook just how much God hates sin and how angry He is with

those who haven't repented of their sin. When the Lord Jesus Christ died in our place on the cross and took upon Himself the punishment that we deserved for our sins, He was dying for people who were His enemies:

Romans 5:10: “For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.”

It's a tremendous act of love for God to extend His mercy and grace to His enemies. The Lord is offering forgiveness and everlasting life to people who have earned His wrath. It's an amazing thing to show love to someone you're very angry with – but that's exactly what God has done for us. Those who minimize God's wrath against sinners are also minimizing the greatness of His love.

All those who repent of their sins and believe in Jesus will be saved. God will show His everlasting love and mercy to them. However, His everlasting wrath will be poured out upon all those who don't repent:

Exodus 20:5-6: “Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.”

God's anger against the wicked is *immense*. One day He will remove all of them from the world and there will be none remaining:

Psalms 119:119: “Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth like dross: therefore I love

thy testimonies.”

This is something the Lord Jesus Christ will do personally when He returns at the end of the seven-year tribulation period. Jesus warned us of this when He spoke of the way He would judge the world upon His return:

Matthew 25:41: “Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:”

It's a terrible mistake to look at God's love and believe it means that He would never judge anyone. The day is coming when God will judge the wicked:

Psalm 11:6: “Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.”

God is angry at sin, and He's also angry with the sinner. Yet He still offers us His forgiveness, if we will repent and believe in Jesus!

The love of God should amaze us and drive us to repent of our sins. Those who misuse God's love as an excuse to continue to live in sin don't understand His love (or how angry He is at those He's extended it to). God has warned us that forgetting Him and living as we please has terrible consequences:

Psalm 50:22: “Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver.”