

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.

Romans

A New Life

Lesson #2: The Wrath of God

INTRODUCTION

What have you heard or read in the news lately that indicates our world is not whole and healthy?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read Romans 1:18-32

1. How is God's wrath different than man's wrath? v. 18 **Jn 3:36; Pr 30:33**
2. How does the cross show God's perspective on punishing sin (and His wrath)? **1 Cor 1:18**
3. How does everyone know about God? vv.19-20 **Jer 29:3**
4. The rising tide of universalism implies that everyone will go to heaven? How does that change the urgency of the Gospel message? Why do Universalists disregard God's wrath?
5. How do Universalists explain evil (& sin) in the world if there is no judgment?
6. What happens when God allows sin to run its course as an act of judgment? **James 1:15; Gal 6:8**
Note: Moral degradation is the consequence of God's wrath, not the reason for it. Sin inevitably creates its own penalty. Divine judgement is God allowing people to go their own way.
7. What do these verses say about the notion that people are basically good? **Mk 7:20-23**
8. How do these verses help you be less ashamed of the gospel and more eager to express it? **Rom 1:16**

APPLICATION

Pray that God would be revealed powerfully to those who are rejecting him? Learn to love the sinner and hate the sin.

“Man has a revelation from God, but he flagrantly flaunts it by defying the judgment of God against such sins. He continues to practice them and applauds and approves those who do the same.”

Thru the Bible with J. Vernon McGee Vol IV, p. 655

Donald Grey Barnhouse recounts the story of a group of godly farmers in a Midwest community being irritated one Sunday morning by a neighbor's plowing his field across from their church. Noise from his tractor interrupted the worship service, and, as it turned out, the man had purposely chosen to plow that particular field on Sunday morning in order to make a point. He wrote a letter to the editor of the local paper, asserting that, although he did not respect the Lord or honor the Lord's Day, he had the highest yield per acre of any farm in the county. He asked the editor how Christians could explain that. With considerable insight and wisdom, the editor printed the letter and followed it with the simple comment, “God does not settle [all] His accounts in the month of October” (Man's Ruin: Romans 1:1–32 [Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1952], p. 220).¹

¹MacArthur, John: *Romans*. Chicago : Moody Press, 1996, c1991, c1994, S. 64