

MORE THAN A FEELING

ANGER

PART 4

God's glory through Wrath

READ: REVELATION 19:1-5

INTRODUCTION

In Revelation chapter 19 we are at the end of God's wrath being poured out on the world for its evil deeds. (Look back over the previous few chapters for more details) It is amazing (even if hard to comprehend) that God's people in Heaven immediately react to His judgements with praise. It changes the way we should view God and His wrath when we place His perfect holiness in its proper place in our hearts and minds.

Often, we feel uncomfortable around something like the wrath, or anger, of God. This should not be the case however because we see throughout Scripture that God's holiness cannot tolerate sin whatsoever. That means that when He deals with sin and evil, He is to be glorified. We cannot let our imperfect emotions try to dilute the perfect wrath of God because it makes us "feel better" about Him. He does not need our defense when He acts out His judgement of a fallen world.

In the destruction of God's enemies, our response should always be to lift up His name in glory. He deals out justice to evildoers and we can be encouraged by that. His path is narrow and we can be encouraged by that. Perfection is the standard and through His Son, dying on the cross, we have been forgiven and made righteous. We may not understand God's wrath from an earthly, human perspective but, we can see how good He truly is in His perfect anger towards evil and sin. Through that, we can be truly thankful that He shows us grace and mercy and love as His children.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Does it make you uncomfortable that God is praised after destroying much of the world? Why? How can we better present the wrath of God to people who may be uncomfortable with it?
2. What are some other passages that show God being glorified in His anger? Why is it important for us to understand that He is perfect in ALL His ways?
3. Regarding God's wrath and anger, why is it so important that He never changes? How is His anger different than ours? How can we align our anger with His?
4. There is a difference in praising God than in taking pleasure in the destruction of humans. Why is it important to be sensitive to this difference?
5. How does God's love for us intertwine with His anger? Where in His anger can we take encouragement?

WRAP UP

On the surface, we often will look at God's anger and feel that it is extreme. From humanistic perceptions it may be too extreme. However, when we look at His anger Biblically and through the lens of a Holy and perfect God, it is impossible to ignore the fact that if He truly is God then He must be able to deal with evil. On top of that, if He is a good God and a loving God, then He has to eventually deal with evil. That means that His anger, while intense, is necessary for Him to cleanse the world from unrighteousness.