

Romans 1:19~25

Jonathan Edwards is famous for his message... “*Sinners in the hands of an angry God.*”

The **Wrath** of God... What a *terrifying* thought, what a *frightening* image those words form in your mind. To think the “Great Judge” of all the earth, the Creator of all things, God almighty, unleashing his fury, bringing judgment upon a man... Recompensing a man according to what the man deserves! Taking the mercy, forgiveness, kindness, gentleness, etc all away, and unleashing the “Pure, Undeclared Wrath” on a person to recompense wrong!

But the real tragedy is, that there is *no reason* for it to happen... God has made it so that the vilest of the vilest can be set free, escaping the wrath of God.

I’m reminded of what God Himself said about the wicked in Ezekiel 18...

²³**Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?** *saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?*

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dies, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn *yourselves*, and live ye.

Beloved, listen closely to those words... *...for why will ye die, O house of Israel?*

Those are the words from a broken heart... I can’t help but think, that when a person dies without Christ, that God’s heart is broken...

In this we find, what I think is the true measure of Christianity... I think that this characteristic is what sets those who truly know God, and His Son Jesus... I believe it manifest itself in that we develop the same heart, that our God has... *A broken heart for those lost in sin...*

¹⁸*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;*

Verses 19~25, contain the “*Reasons for the Wrath of God...*”

Paul is very specific... He gives “**TWO REASONS**” for the wrath of God...

¹⁹**Because** *that which may be known of God is manifest in them; God hath showed it unto them.*

²¹**Because** *that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God neither were thankful;*

Paul says that it is a result of knowing God’s goodness, God’s faithfulness, God’s might... Knowing these things of God, and not Worshiping Him! Not serving Him! But rather, turning aside to live your own life, serving your own desires and will... To such a man, does the wrath of God awaits...

Q: Somebody may ask...

Q: What about those who’ve never heard the bible, those who’ve never been to church?

Q: What about those people who’ve never heard about God?

That’s not fair...right?

Paul's answer... **No One is Excused**... They need but look to creation to know enough...

¹⁸*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; ¹⁹Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them. ²⁰For 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:*

The “*Testimony of God*,” is everywhere you look... Paul says just look around. Everything that exist testifies to this truth of God and the power of God! All of creation “Testifies” to the Goodness and Faithfulness of God!

²⁰*For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made...*

You ever heard the expression... “*His work speaks for itself*...”

You can “*tell a lot*” by looking to someone’s work! It is easy to see, if they know what their doing... If they are lazy, whether or not they care, if they are organized or not...

Bottom line is, you can tell a lot about a person, by looking to their work!

This is true in everything... I’ve heard a lot of preaching/teaching that manifested clearly a lack of study! The presentation manifested a poor preparation!

Well, Paul says... “Creation has a lot to say about God...”

²⁰*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:*

You ever heard someone say...

I can’t believe that someone could look around at all this and not believe theirs a God!

Rightly so... Because all of creation testifies of Him! The sun, moon, stars, trees, water, food, and on and on testify of God faithfulness and goodness to mankind!

(Vs 20b) Creation speaks of *his eternal power and Godhead*...

Intelligent Design... There was a debate this past Tuesday night on “Larry King Live” on the topic... “*Intelligent Design*.” The debate was over whether or not to teach in the classroom “*intelligent design*” along side that of “*evolution*.” The argument became heated between the scientist and atheist who argued that the whole purpose of the debate was religiously founded. But those for ID, argued not so, that all they wanted was to present the facts! To take a “Honest & Unbiased” look at the earth and universe, at the perfection and the incredible make up of everything, which leaves no other answer than that it all “*Speaks*” of intelligence! It speaks of immense wisdom and complexity behind the design. It speaks to the impossibility of all these things just “*coming into being*...” They argued that DNA, which “*SCIENTIST*” themselves have discovered, and would never argue, has destroyed the theory of evolution!

Bottom line...the “*Scientist*” refused to acknowledge “*Intelligent Design*...” They argue their superior knowledge and study of such shows no God! Listen to what Paul says in verse 22...

²²*Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools...*

It speaks to the great love of God... Because He does all of this, faithfully I might add, even though we do not deserve it! He supplies us everything we need and everything we enjoy, even though we do not serve Him! Mt. 5...

⁴³Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. ⁴⁴But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; ⁴⁵That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven:

... for he makes **his sun** to rise on the evil and on the good, and **sends rain** on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? ⁴⁷And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more *than others*? do not even the publicans so? ⁴⁸Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

God is good to the “*just & the unjust*” to the “*Good & the evil...*”

The “**Whole world**” is currently enjoying the GOODNESS, the GRACE, the FAITHFULNESS of God!

Everything around us, testifies of GOD!

When speaking to His disciples, Jesus used these things to teach this truth...

²⁵Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? ²⁶Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are ye not much better than they? ²⁷Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? ²⁸And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: ²⁹And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith? ³¹Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? ³²(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knows that ye have need of all these things. ³³But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. ³⁴Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.

The “JUST” shall live by faith!

Everything we receive in this life that is a blessing comes from God...

EVERYTHING we enjoy and are blessed to have comes from God! Over and over God has shown himself faithful, and worthy of our trust...

But here's the tragic part, the sad part of it all... Man isn't grateful!

Paul says as much in verses 22~25...

²²Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, ²³And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four footed beasts, and creeping things. ²⁴Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: ²⁵Who changed the truth of

God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

We are constantly reminded of God's goodness and faithfulness to us! It is "Obvious" everywhere you look... Everything we see around us speaks of God's care and goodness towards us!

YET... In light of that... we are ungrateful, and unloving towards God! We have rejected his goodness and love towards us... And to beat it all... We have stooped to worshiping the creation instead of the creator!

Man worships "Things" instead of God! Man lives for "*Houses*" and "*Land*" and "*Cars...*" Man's life consist of all this stuff, which he devotes all of his time and energy too... All the while, God continues to manifest his goodness to us!

In light of that truth, what are you giving your life to?

A man better carefully consider how he answers that question... Most of all, he better examine his life and give the honest answer!

We Have NO EXCUSE... If anyone dies and goes to hell, it will be their own fault! To look around and see Him, and all of his goodness towards us, and then reject Him by continuing to live our own lives and ways... is to reject His love, and bring upon yourself His wrath!