

Romans

(4) The Wrath of God

Understanding the fact of God's wrath...1:18-20

Paul now shifts to the *wrath of God*. What is his first observation? vs.18

That the wrath of God is (right now, continuously) being revealed from heaven...

Why is this always the starting point? Ps.2:5, 12; Rom.2:2; Eph.2:3, 5:6; Rev.6:16-17

God's wrath is an essential part of His Holy being. No one flees what they don't believe!

Why is this in such stark contrast to the gospel message of today?

Desperate lost sinners are encouraged to find the "abundant life", not flee from His wrath.

What is fueled by not recognizing God's Holy wrath? 3:18; IICor.5:11; IPet.1:17-19; Mt.10:28

Our natural, sinful lack of fear of God. If He has no wrath/judgment, just sin on...

The (5) points about God's wrath...1:18

What is Paul's first point about the wrath? 1:18a Hab.1:13; Ps.7:11

It is God's wrath, not man's. It is not irrational temper. It's perfect, Holy wrath.

"There [can be no] surer and sadder token of an utterly prostrate moral condition than... not being able to be angry with sin- and sinners" Richard Trench

What is his second point about God's wrath? 1:18b

It is continuously being revealed. No secret. Flood, Sodom/Gomorrah, Egypt, Israel, cross

Why do we not see even more of the wrath of God today? 2:5; Rev.6:16-17

God is long-suffering and patient, but His wrath is being stored up for judgment day.

What is his third point about God's wrath? 1:18c IThess.1:10

It's revealed from heaven. This refers to both general wrath as well as the wrath to come.

What is his fourth point about God's wrath? 1:18d 3:23

His wrath is against ALL ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. None righteous...

What is the difference between ungodliness and unrighteousness?

Ungodliness (faulty relationship to God, 5:10, Eph.2:3). Unrighteous (result, actions)

And finally, what is Paul's fifth point about the "why" of God's wrath? 1:18e

The outworking of unrighteousness is universal suppressing of the truth.

Summarize, in your own words, the state of man described in 1:18

It's now clear that God's wrath is declared. The next question is... Why? Paul next answers that.