

# Personal/Small Group Sermon Study

## Truth, Lies, and the Passive Wrath of God

Week of May 23, 2021 A.D.

### **Read Romans 3:21-26**

1. Do you agree with verse 23? If not, why not? If so: (a) what is sin; (b) what is the glory of God; and (c) why does sin matter if everybody has sinned? Please explain the basis and the reasons for your answers.
2. Refer to verse 24. What does it mean (a) to be justified? (b) to be justified freely? (c) by his (God's) grace? (d) through redemption? and (e) that came by Christ Jesus? Please explain the reasons for your answers.
3. Refer to verse 25. In the NIV Bible, the footnote defines "sacrifice of atonement" as "the one who would turn aside God's wrath, taking away sin". How was Jesus "a sacrifice"? Why was a sacrifice required and of whom was a sacrifice required? Why would God express "wrath" toward anybody in the first place? Please explain your answers.
4. Refer to verse 26. What do "justice" and "faith in Jesus" have to do with each other? Please explain your answers.

### **Read Genesis 6:11-13**

5. Was the flood a demonstration of the active wrath of God? If not, why not? If so, was the flood justified (an act of justice)? Please explain the reasons for your answers.

### **Read 2 Peter 3:10-13**

6. Do these verses describe a demonstration of the active wrath of God which is scheduled by God to occur in the future? If not, why not? If so, will these future events be justified? Please explain the reasons for your answers.

7. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “Grace is God’s unmerited favor by which God does not punish mankind for their sins.”
  
8. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “The God of grace is also a God of wrath. But, God is currently withholding His direct and active wrath against mankind for the sole purpose of allowing more humans the opportunity to receive eternal life and forgiveness of sin by proclaiming their faith in Christ as their Savior and Lord.”

### **Read Romans 1:18-21**

9. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “God has given to mankind an understanding of physics, chemistry, biology, and all true science for the primary purpose of revealing the nature and grandeur of God. Any attempt to use “science” to deny the existence and/or the truth of the God of the Bible is nothing other than an adherence to the religion of secular humanism which has been invented by sinful man in an effort to ignore the coming wrath of God.”

### **Read Romans 1:24-32**

10. Please read each of these verses one at a time and in order. Before going to the next verse, please state how each verse does (or does not) describe the present culture in America.
  
11. Are the consequences of the behavior which is described in these verses good or bad for a culture and/or nation? Verses 24, 26, and 28 state that “God gave them over”. Is it accurate to describe such “giving over” as being “the passive wrath of God”? Please explain the reasons for your answers.
  
12. List some examples of God’s passive wrath from the Bible. Now list some examples of God’s active wrath from the Bible. Compare those examples to events which are happening in the world today. Do you see God’s passive wrath happening now? Do you see God’s active wrath happening now? In each instance, is God demonstrating both His justice and His love? Please explain the reasons for your answers.

**Consider:** God has given to each person the privilege to exercise their free will in all of the affairs of life. God has also given to us the responsibility to seek and to act in accordance with His good, pleasing, and perfect will. “You think about that.” Amen.