

The King's Highway

AN ADVOCATE OF SCRIPTURAL HOLINESS

VOL. XXXIX

MONCTON, N. B., MAY 15, 1962

No. 9

— Our Pastors Speak —



Wrath Revealed

by Rev. B. M. Hicks

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men" (Rom. 1:18).

Divine wrath is the opposite of divine love. Both wrath and love are found in the character of God. Love, however, is often given far more prominence than wrath. Many who believe in a God of love deny the wrath of God. We do not question the love of a wise earthly father when he punishes his child for its misdeeds. God is love, and as a loving Father His wrath must go forth against the ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. God is holy. From His holiness issues holy wrath as well as holy love, holy justice, etc.

God has revealed to us not only His love but His wrath as well. We rejoice in the revelation of His wondrous love. Especially do we rejoice if we have accepted the gift of His love, Jesus, as our Saviour, Sanctifier, Keeper and Coming King. But just as surely should sinners shudder at the revelation of God's wrath. They shall suffer the wrath of God if they do not accept His mercy.

Angels sinned and the wrath of God was outpoured upon them. They rose up in mutiny against God. Their leader aspired to displace God. "God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment."

God the Father revealed His wrath by pronouncing the death sentence upon ungodliness and unrighteousness. "Ye shall not eat . . . of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, . . . lest ye die." "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Jesus spoke of hell fire, of men perishing, and warns us against it, declaring that it would be better for us to suffer the loss of parts of our body, be maimed in this life, rather than to suffer the wrath of God in the next.

The judgment is a revelation of the wrath of God against sin. There would be no need of the judgment if God's love blanketed all. "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."

There are abundant examples of the wrath of God being outpoured. The Antediluvians were destroyed by the flood because of their sin and God-forgetfulness. Sodom and Gomorrah were burned with fire and brimstone. The Canaanites were destroyed and their land given to the

children of Israel. Judah and Israel were punished by God because of their sin.

Not only were nations and cities punished for their sin but individuals were punished as well. Adam and Eve were punished for their disobedience. They committed but ONE sin and because of it were driven from Eden. Because of it the earth was cursed and "sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men." Cain sinned and the curse of God rested upon him until he cried out, "My punishment is greater than I can bear." Judas sold his Lord and went and hanged himself. Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Ghost and God smote them.

The wrath of God was outpoured on nations and individuals during time, in this world. Some, however, get by in this life without the judgment of God being "executed speedily". They shall not escape. Wrath will be outpoured on sinners in the world to come. An example of this is the rich man who "fared sumptuously every day" in this life. He died and went to hell. "Being in torments," he begged Abraham to permit Lazarus to "dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame."

God has not only revealed His wrath against sin; He has also revealed a remedy. God's hatred for sin is revealed in the sacrifice He was willing to make. If God could have condoned sin there would have been no need for an atonement. Of Christ it is said, "he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." He, whose wrath is revealed against sin, has prepared a way whereby sin can be put away with its dire consequences. Thanks be to God for the sacrifice of Jesus. By His blessed atonement we can escape God's wrath.

★ ★ ★ *Repeat It and See*

The Christian who does not believe in foreign missions does not believe in the Great Commission. Repeat it and see.

The Christian who does not believe in foreign missions does not believe in the Apostles' Creed. Repeat it and see.

The Christian who does not believe in foreign missions does not believe in the Lord's Prayer. Repeat it and see.

The Christian who does not believe in foreign missions does not believe in the Doxology in long meter. Repeat it and see.

The Christian who does not believe in foreign missions does not believe that verse, so often quoted, John 3:16. Repeat it and see.

The Christian who does not believe in foreign missions believes that two-thirds of earth's population should perish without hope.

How many more millions must die before the church of God moves forward? "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."—Temple Evangelist.