

The Reason for the Wrath of God, Part 2

John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 1:19-23.

B. The gospel must begin with God's wrath towards sinning human beings.

II. Cautions.

A. Beware of the teachings of soul sleep and universalism.

B. Beware of liberalism that teaches that Jesus is too loving to condemn anyone.

C. Such teachings are cultic.

III. There are four reasons for God's wrath (they are also four phases in the decline and fall of man).

A. Revelation. Man's judgment is inexcusable because he has rejected what God has revealed to him.

B. Rejection.

1. Every human being has the revelation of creation around him to lead him to God. they willingly turn away from that revelation. (John 1:9)

2. Man refuses to glorify God, which is to recognize him for all that he is. This is the ultimate affront to God. (Romans 6:4, Exodus 33, John 1)

3. The reason we live is for the glory of God.

4. Men throughout history turned their back on the glory of God.(Genesis 3, Exodus 33, 1 Kings 8, Ezekiel 8)

5. God judges man because they reject his revealed glory. (Jeremiah 13:13, Acts 12:20)

6. God's glory will come again. (Matthew 24:29)

C. Rationalization.

D. Religion.

Application Questions:

1. Why do some have trouble with the idea of God's wrath?

2. How would you counter someone who argues that God is not wrathful?

3. Why is God's wrath justified?
