A Brief Consideration Of The "Judgment" And "Wrath" Of Almighty God

Isn't the prophetic accuracy of God's Word amazing? יהוה God states history will once again repeat itself. Please read the following carefully because *Truth Matters* to each of us concerning these crucial topics.

On Judgment …

Do you recall God's simple Counsel to His Old Testament covenant people? In their walk of faith, they were to **obey**, especially in the area of rejecting the other false gods in their region. God knew many would not remain faithful and predicted their harlotry long before it occurred. Because they did not heed His Counsel to stay pure, God used His people's enemies to bring judgment. In 722 B.C. the Assyrians took Israel (the northern tribes) captive. Later, God judged the Assyrians for their evil deeds. In 586 B.C. the Babylonians took Judah captive. Later, God judged the Babylonians for their failures. God judged His disobedient Old Testament covenant people who had prostrated themselves to the false gods of the land. They committed spiritual adultery against their God. They were harlots in that they inquired after the other gods of their day.

Do you recall God's simple Counsel to His New Testament covenant people? His new-born people in Christ are to walk by faith in grace-based obedience, including the area of rejecting the other false gods which have been erected in present culture – indeed there are many false gods today! Similar to the preceding paragraph, God has also stated there will yet be a day when *the harlot* will raise her ugly head. During this time many *Christians-by-name* will not remain true to the Lord Jesus Christ and will go on to commit spiritual adultery – they will actually become an *unfaithful woman*. Please take some time out to read Revelation 17 carefully. This chapter is a wonderful example of a portion of the Word of God where *Scripture interprets Scripture*. Time and time again we find *this thing = that thing*. Look for the verb *to be* ("are," / "is") when reading this chapter. For example, it says "the waters" are *such and such*; the "adulterous woman" is *such and such*, etc. Note carefully how the woman's harlotry brings the judgment of God through the instrument of the beast.

The wayward Old and New Testament covenant people, accommodating the worldly mandate to commit spiritual adultery through alliance with opposing spiritual perspectives, will also incur the judgment of God through His people's enemy, the beast. (Those who incur **His** judgment are disobedient covenant people *in name only* – **not** those whose names are securely written in the Lamb's Book of Life, who will not yield to the ultimate wicked compromise, the mark of the beast – Revelation 13, 14.)

The diagram below helps show the similarities between the Old and New Testament covenant people of God who have, in part and in the past, chosen **and** who will, in part and in the near future, chose the route of King Joash (2 Chronicles 24). In contrast to the disobedient covenant people of God, may we be His obedient people who, by His mercy and grace, miss this coming judgment by staying faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Disobedient OT Covenant People	**Disobedient** NT Covenant People
They were told by God to follow only Him and not to adopt the practices of the world	They are told by God to follow only Him and not to adopt the practices of the world
They disobeyed and God sent judgment through the Assyrians and Babylonians	They will disobey and God will allow judgment through the one-world system of antichrist
God then judged the very instruments through whom He brought judgment: the Assyrians and the Babylonians	God will judge the very instrument through whom He will bring judgment: the beast of Revelation 17

Humanity will once again in the near future reject the clear Counsel of the one true God for the worldly agenda. (see Psalm 2 for insightful *perspective* during this time) Aren't clear signs of this already happening today? I don't know about you but I *see* this appeal to syncretize (bring together as one in synergistic unity) irreconcilable religious perspectives everywhere I go. This appeal demands of us things that we, if we continue in obedience to Him, cannot do. In our abiding in Him we find the provisions to endure this dark age. Praise God for this victory in Christ Jesus alone! He is faithful and will make all things new *in His time*. Before that time comes, though, He has forewarned of difficult, deceptive days. May we walk in the patience and in the faith of the Saints and in so doing save our souls. The NIV states it this way: "By standing firm you will gain life." (Luke 21:19 ; also see Rev. 13:9, 10 and Rev. 14:12)

On Wrath …

Some say, "God's people DON'T incur His wrath!" But, in light of the full Counsel of God's Word, is this claim accurate? It is not because it belittles God's full revelation on this matter. Partial truth can be used to deceive.

IF folks honestly want the complete biblical picture on this matter of God's disapproving response to His people over time, they will take in and affirm the Bible's whole data-picture. The following passages – please read them in their contexts – are insightful and provide incentive toward correct *walk* in Jesus Christ, a walk which includes the fear of God in the context of the eternal New Covenant in Christ Jesus:

Deuteronomy 9:7	This verse could also be a summary statement expressing the general trait of rebellion, not necessarily a specific example, though the beginning of Israel's departure out of Egypt (and into the wilderness) began at the Red Sea crossing where some voiced a rebellious attitude – see Exodus 14 and Psalm 106:7.
Deuteronomy 9:8	(see Ex. 32 and Deut. 9:9-21)
Deuteronomy 9:22	
Numbers 11:1-3	(at Taberah)
Exodus 17:1-7	(at Massah)
Numbers 11	(at Kibroth-Hattaavah)
II Kings 22:13, 16, 17	
II Kings 23:26	
II Chronicles 19:2 ; 20:37	
II Chron. 29:8 ; 34:19-25	
II Chron. 36:15, 16	
Ezra 5:12 ; 8:22	
Nehemiah 13:18	
Job 14:13	
Psalm 28:1	
Psalm 78:26-31	
Psalm 90:7-12	
Psalm 95:10, 11	
Psalm 106	
I Thes. 2:14-16	
Revelation 14:9-12	

The above list is by NO means exhaustive. For example, note carefully, Matthew 8:5-13 (especially one *teaching point* our Lord Himself makes in verses 10-12). In response: "Yes, Lord, in loving relationship with

You, we rightly fear You given who You are and who we are. As the correct appeal goes: 'You are God and we are not!' Thank You once again for Philippians 2:12, 13." (also see Ezekiel 33 and Romans 11 [especially verses 17-21] in light of God's complete message to us)

Let's also include a related aspect of the full Counsel of God's Word on this topic of the wrath of God.

As we say "Amen!" to (in affirmation of) the I Thes. 1:10 and I Thes. 5:9 passages, we go on to note their contexts. The immediate settings of these verses in which God has placed them are I Thes. 1:9, 10 and I Thes. 5:1-10 respectively. So we ask: "His mercies are conditionally applied based upon / as a result of **what** ? (in light of God's full Counsel)

YES, we **thank the LORD** for His "But God" responses to sinners BUT ask, "To whom are these mercies graciously extended?!" *Confession* and *humble repentance* continue to be necessary elements for receiving His generous mercies. Do you recall the book of Judges? **Let's read our Bibles dear Church!** Humility of heart continues to be a character quality of God's New Covenant people in Jesus Christ, or at least it should be. Beware of some of the teachings of the *Cult of Unbiblical Grace* and other groups who are unwilling to affirm ALL of God's Word.

In response to the claim, **"God's people do not incur His wrath,"** the Bible teaches this:
God's obedient people in Jesus Christ do not incur His wrath but if we wander in disobedience, beware!

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil." Ecc. 12:13, 14 (NKJV) This includes obeying I John 3:23 and our Lord Jesus Christ's call to obey Him and His Father out of love for God as outlined in John 14, 15.

Enough said here on God's responses to mankind. We encourage you to do a more complete Bible study on God's judgment and wrath. The **biblical** *picture*, if sought, would surprise many today.

Father God, You have been so clear. Help Your Church discern the false teachings coming from some compromised churches and so-called *Christian* teachers today. For our protection unto Your glory and praise, in Jesus Christ's holy name, Lord, please open our eyes that we may behold wonderful things from Your Word. And Lord, thank You for Psalm 103. Help us balance the Truths therein. Amen

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