\*THE WRATH OF GOD\*

 \*"It is a fearful thing to fall into the Hands of the living God".\*

Hebrews 10:31.

Many of us are comfortable knowing God as the loving, kind, compassionate, caring and the merciful God; we all love to adore;

\*"The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love".\*

Psalm 103:8.

However, the bible gives us indications, that there are \*"two sides of God"\*

 \*"The Lord is good and His love endures forever and His faithfulness continues to all generations".\*

Psalm 100:5.

However, this same God is known to be a consuming fire.

\*Hebrews12:29\*

Certainly, our God is never shy to show His wrath \*when people engage in sin.\*

As preachers of the Gospel; we have the obligation to preach \*both: the merciful, loving part of God, as well as the wrath of God that comes on everyone as a result of sin and disobedience.\*

Obviously, we all love our Christian lives being very smooth and jolly, that reflects in the titles and themes of our

sermons: during Sunday services, Monthly and Yearly themes in our Churches.

More often than not, out topics are about; \*"Love of God, Divine blessing, Overflowing Favour, Success, Next level, Joy promotion, constant alert, Amazing Grace of God"\* etc.

These are not heresy though.

However, the Holy Bible also contains words like:

\*"Beware of false prophets" "Hell is real", "I never knew you" "Depart from me" "Repent: the kingdom of God is at hand":\* which was the \*focal message\* Jesus instructed us to continually preach until He comes.

\*Luke 10:9\*

Consequently, the message of today is focused on that side of God we don't always discuss:

 \*"And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God" .\* Rev 15:1.

Wrath of God is defined as \*God's punishment or His fierce anger\* on the enemies of His children and even His \*chosen ones.\*

The popular notion that: we live in the dispensation of \*"Grace"\* has perhaps been overstretched in this era.

We are no more under the Law; but under Grace; Correct, but does that mean we have the " \*insurance licence of grace"\* that allow us to sin & live carelessly? \*Not at all.\*

 Romans 6:15.

The bible says:

 \*"The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom"\*

Prov 9:10.

 \*Firstly\* , let's look at the \*wrath of God;\* against the enemies of God or enemies of His children.

\*"The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall He thunder upon them.."\*

1 Samuel 2:10.

Pharaoh and the Egyptians had sore taste of the wrath of God, when God placed many \*afflictions\* upon them for not allowing the Israelites to go.

 \*Exodus chapter 7-14\*

Fighting God's obedient child is like fighting God;

 \*who can battle with the Lord? I say nobody!\*

God always fight for His children.

\*"Beloved, never avenge yourself but leave it to the wrath of God; for it is written: vengeance is mine, I will repay says the Lord".\*

Romans 12:19.

When you are in right standing before God and the enemy fights; \*God's wrath\* will definitely come on the enemy of God's chosen.

 \*"But you belong to God, my dear children, you have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world".\*

1 John 4:4.

Apparently,

" \*I am Actually Stronger Than My enemies after all! ".\* For

 \*Christ\* is in me.

\*Secondly\* , the wrath of God is not peculiar to the enemies alone. God also gets angry against His \*erring children.\*

The book of Joshua chapter 7 is very instructive about how the sins of a single person can cause pain and affliction to a congregation;

The Christian journey requires our Spiritual alertness; for us to go before God to ascertain the cause of certain issues we are confronted with and stop blaming Satan. Perhaps; \*"there is an Achan among you".\*

Joshua and the elders of Isreal went before God to inquire why God allowed the Amorites to destroy the Isrealites.

\*Joshua7:1-26\*

\*"Did not Achan: the son of Zarah break faith in the matter of the devoted things and the wrath fell on all the congregations of Isreal? for he did not perish alone for his iniquity".\*

Joshua 22:20.

 \*Listen to me, people of God\*: the wrath of God does not come upon anybody \*without prior warning from God.\*

That's why the bible says \*He is slow to anger\*.

However, just \*as it was in the days of Noah\*; they did not heed to warning of God, they said: \*"He does not know what he is doing"\*

\*"But, because you are stubborn and refuse to turn from your sin, you are storing terrible punishment for yourself; for a day of anger is coming when God's righteous judgement will be revealed".\*

Romans 2:5.

The wrath of God only comes after incessant \*sins, pride and blatant disregard\* to the warning and words of God.

\*"Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience".\*

Ephesians 5:6.

\*God hates curses\* .The Psalmist says:

\*"For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips, let them even be taken in their pride and for cursing and lying which they speak; consume them in your wrath".\*

Psalm 59:12-13.

In Leviticus 24, two people were fighting in the camp and one cursed the other.

This displeased God, that He said to Moses:

 \*"Take the one who cursed outside the camp and everyone who heard him must lay hands on his head and stone him to death"\*.

Lev 24:14.

Invariably, curses breeds the wrath of God. \*Do not indulge in it.\*

\*"Curses are like chickens; they always come home to roost"\*

 \*"And I will bless them that bless you and curse him that curses you".\*

Gen 12:3.

God shields His own people.

" \*However, the Lord knows how to rescue Godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of the final judgement".\*

2 Peter 2:9.

In conclusion, \*"He that is unjust, let him be unjust still and he that is filthy, let him be filthy still, he that is righteous, let him be righteous still and he that is holy, let him be holy still. Behold, I come quickly and my reward is with me to give every man according as his work shall be".\*

Rev 22:11&12.

 \*Prayer\*: Father help me to be obedient to your words and do not rage your wrath upon my life. 🙏🏼

\*Repent from your evil ways\* today to avoid the wrath of God upon your life.

 \*"He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches".\*

Rev 2:29.

 \*JESUS Reigns\*

Signed, Bro Cole