

**Articles and Sermons :: The Wrath of God, by William Law****The Wrath of God, by William Law - posted by wayneman (), on: 2011/6/4 20:06**

Some People have an Idea, or Notion of the Christian Religion, as if God was thereby declared so full of Wrath against fallen Man, that nothing but the Blood of his only begotten Son could satisfy his Vengeance.

Nay, some have gone such Lengths of Wickedness, as to assert that God had by immutable Decrees reprobated, and rejected a great Part of the Race of Adam, to an inevitable Damnation, to show forth and magnify the Glory of his Justice.

But these are miserable Mistakers of the Divine Nature, and miserable Reproachers of his great Love, and Goodness in the Christian Dispensation.

For God is Love, yea, all Love, and so all Love, that nothing but Love can come from him; and the Christian Religion, is nothing else but an open, full Manifestation of the universal Love towards all Mankind. {See Spirit of Prayer}

As the Light of the Sun has only one common Nature towards all Objects that can receive it, so God has only one common Nature of Goodness towards all created Nature, breaking forth in infinite Flames of Love, upon every Part of the Creation, and calling everything to the highest Happiness it is capable of.

God so loved Man, when his Fall was foreseen, that he chose him to Salvation in Christ Jesus, before the Foundation of the World. When Man was actually fallen, God was so without all Wrath towards him, so full of Love for him, that he sent his only begotten Son into the World to redeem him. Therefore God has no Nature towards Man, but Love, and all that he does to Man, is Love.

There is no Wrath that stands between God and us, but what is awakened in the dark Fire of our own fallen Nature; and to quench this Wrath, and not his own, God gave his only begotten Son to be made Man. God has no more Wrath in himself now, than he had before the Creation, when he had only himself to love. The precious Blood of his Son was not poured out to pacify himself (who in himself had no Nature towards man but Love), but it was poured out, to quench the Wrath, and Fire of the fallen Soul, and kindle in it a Birth of Light, and Love. {See Spirit of Love, part ii, p. 50, &c.}

As man lives, and moves, and has his Being in the Divine Nature, and is supported by it, whether his Nature be good or bad; so the Wrath of Man, which was awakened in the dark Fire of his fallen Nature, may, in a certain Sense, be called the Wrath of God, as Hell itself may be said to be in God, because nothing can be out of his Immensity; yet this Hell, is not God, but the dark Habitation of the Devil. And this Wrath which may be called the Wrath of God, is not God, but the fiery Wrath of the fallen Soul.

And it was solely to quench this Wrath, awakened in the human Soul, that the Blood of the Son of God was necessary, because nothing but a Life and a Birth, derived from him into the human Soul, could change this darkened Root of a self-orienting Fire, into an amiable Image of the holy Trinity, as it was at first created.

This was the Wrath, Vengeance, and vindictive Justice that wanted to be satisfied, in order to our Salvation; it was the Wrath and Fire of Nature and Creature kindled only in itself, by its departing from due Resignation, and Obedience to God.

When Adam and Eve went trembling behind the Trees, through Fear and Dread of God, it was only this Wrath of God awakened in them; it was a Terror, and Horror, and Shivering of Nature, that arose up in themselves, because the Divine Life, the Birth of the Son of God, which is the Brightness and Joy of the Soul, was departed from it, and had left it, to feel its own poor miserable State without it. And this may well enough be called the Wrath, and Justice of God upon them, because it was a Punishment, or painful State of the Soul, that necessarily followed their revolting from God.

But still there was no Wrath, or painful Sensation, that wanted to be appeased, or satisfied, but in Nature and Creature; it was only the Wrath of fallen Nature, that wanted to be changed, into its first State of Peace and Love. When God spoke to them, he spoke only Love; Adam, where art thou? And he called him, only to comfort him with a promised Redemption, through a Seed of the Woman, a Spark of the word of Life which should reign in him, and his Posterity, till all Enemies were under their Feet. God therefore is all Love, and nothing but Love and Goodness can come from him. He is as far from Anger in himself, as from Pain and Darkness. But when the fallen Soul of Man, had awakened in itself, a wrathful, s

self-tormenting Fire, which could never be put out by itself, which could never be relieved by the natural Power of any Creature whatsoever, then the Son of God, by a Love, greater than that which created the World, became Man, and gave his own Blood, and Life into the fallen Soul, that it might through his Life in it, be raised, quickened, and born again into its first State of inward Peace and Delight, Glory and Perfection, never to be lost any more. O inestimable Truths! precious Mysteries, of the Love of God, enough to split the hardest Rock of the most obdurate Heart, that is but able to receive one Glimpse of them! Can the World resist such Love as this? Or can any Man doubt, whether he should open all that is within him, to receive such a Salvation?

O unhappy Unbelievers, this Mystery of Love compels me in Love, to call upon you, to beseech and entreat you, to look upon the Christian Redemption in this amiable Light. All the Ideas that your own Minds can form of Love and Goodness, must sink into nothing, as soon as compared with God's Love and Goodness in the Redemption of Mankind.

**Re: The Wrath of God, by William Law, on: 2011/6/4 20:41**

If that is true, and I believe it is.....all I have to say is AMEN!!!!!!!

**Re: The Wrath of God, by William Law - posted by savannah, on: 2011/6/4 22:55**

As the article has no quotes from scripture but only contains the words of one man, I in my post will also quote men on the subject:

"God by the purity of His nature has an infinite abhorrence of sins, and as he holds them guilty of those sins He also abhors their person for those sins. They are abominable in His sight, and they are the object of His indignation and wrath. And it is great evidence how very worthless the choicest of earthly enjoyments are in God's esteem, that he will so largely give 'em out to those that he has no love to, no value for, but that on the contrary, He despises and hates with perfect hatred" (from the sermon "Those That God Hates, He Oftentimes Gives Plenty Of Earthly Things To" by Jonathan Edwards).

"But as for the wicked, GOD HATES THEM, and will feverishly punish them." (JOHN WESLEY - Explanatory Notes Upon the Old Testament, Vol.2)

"The very thing that God hates and disapproves is not the mere event - the thing done in distinction from the doer; but it is the doer himself. It grieves and displeases God that a rational moral agent under His government should array himself against his own God and Father, against all that is right and just in the universe. This is the thing that offends God. The sinner himself is the direct and only object of His anger." (CHARLES G. FINNEY - The Guilt of Sin)

"Of such (sinners - the foolish, and more especially the foolish boasters:)... SUCH MEN JEHOVAH HATES: for if He did not hate evil, His love would not be a holy love, ... "And His soul HATES the evildoer and him that delights in the violence of the strong against the weak. And the more intense this hatred, the more fearful will be the judgments in which it bursts forth." (KEIL & DELITZSCH Psalms, Vol.5)

Psalm 11 Verse 5 - "Note the singular opposition of the two sentences. GOD HATES THE WICKED, therefore in contrast He loves the righteous" (CHARLES H. SPURGEON The Treasury of David, Vol.2)

Psalm 5 Verse 5 - "It is not a little dislike, but a thorough hatred which God bears to workers of iniquity. To be hated of God is an awful thing. O let us be very faithful in warning the wicked around us, for it will be a terrible thing for them to fall into the hands of an angry God!" (CHARLES H. SPURGEON The Treasury of David, Vol.2)

"There is no abstract sin that can be hated apart from the person in whom that sin is represented and embodied. It is the sinner who is punished, not the sin." (A.H. STRONG Systematic Theology)

"If you think God is just lovey-dovey, you had better read this (Ps.11:5) and some of the other Psalms again. GOD HATES THE WICKED who hold onto their wickedness... I do not think God loves the devil, I think He hates him, and HE HATES THOSE WHO HAVE NO INTENTION OF TURNING TO GOD. Frankly, I do not like this distinction that I hear today, that 'God loves the sinner, but hates the sin.' God has loved you so much that He gave His Son to die for you, but if you persist in your sin, and continue in that sin, you are the enemy of God. And God is your enemy." (J. VERNON MCGEE Psalms, Vol.1)

"God's Hatred of Evildoers (Psalm 5:4-5) God is not said to love the sinner and hate his sin; He is said to HATE BOTH THE SINNER AND HIS SIN. This sounds harsh to modern Christian ears, but there is truth here we dare not overlook." (LAYMAN'S BIBLE COMMENTARY)

"He is a holy God, and therefore HATES THEM (the sinner), and cannot endure to look upon them; the wicked, and him that loves violence, HIS SOUL HATES... Their prosperity is far from being an evidence of God's love...their abuse of it does certainly make them objects of HIS HATRED. He hates nothing that He has made, yet HATES THOSE who have ill-made themselves." (MATTHEW HENRY)

"But the wicked HIS SOUL DOT HATE... Their treacherous preparations...are all observed by Yahweh, and HE HATES THEM FROM HIS VERY SOUL. The soul is the seat of the passion of anger and hatred, for God as well as for man... therefore, Yahweh is trying the righteous man, and HATING His deadly enemies." (THE INTERNATIONAL CRITICAL COMMENTARY)

"In vs. 5 the verb 'trieth' has its object both the righteous and the wicked, and means no more that the Lord watchfully observes them both and estimates them for what they are, HATING THE LATTER and ultimately pouring His destruction upon them." (THE INTERPRETER'S BIBLE)

"Yahweh takes no pleasure in wickedness and does not dwell with evil (or evil men). Insolent, boasting people have no position at all in the presence of Yahweh, who HATES ALL 'DOERS OF SIN.' HE DETESTS THE MAN OF BLOODY DEEDS AND DECEITS." (BROADMAN BIBLE COMMENTARY)

**Re: The Wrath of God, by William Law - posted by Veronica226 (), on: 2011/6/4 23:27**

Isaiah 66:15

For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render HIS anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

Jeremiah 10:10

But the LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at HIS wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.

Ezekiel 22:31

Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord GOD.

Ephesians 5:6

Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience

Revelation 14:10

The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he (the one with the mark of the beast) shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.

Revelation 19:15

And out of his (Jesus') mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

**Re: The Wrath of God, by William Law - posted by Oracio (), on: 2011/6/4 23:50**

Quote:  
-----There is no Wrath that stands between God and us, but what is awakened in the dark Fire of our own fallen Nature; and to quench this Wrath, and not his own, God gave his only begotten Son to be made Man. God has no more Wrath in himself now, than he had before the Creation, when he had only himself to love. The precious Blood of his Son was not poured out to pacify himself (who in himself had no Nature towards man but Love), but it was poured out, to quench the Wrath, and Fire of the fallen Soul, and kindle in it a Birth of Light, and Love. {See Spirit of Love, part ii, p. 50, &c.}  
-----

Havn't read much of William Law but that article(especially the above quote)brings up red flags. It is puzzling to me how Law could ignore the wealth of Scripture that clearly shows the righteous indignation of God against sin and rebellious sinners. To preach that God sent His Son to die in order to save sinners from the wrath of man is to devalue the precious blood of the Lamb. How sad.

**Re: , on: 2011/6/5 7:52**

I know what Oracio means. I have heard it more than once recently said that "we do not need to be rescued from God." Yet such an idea ignores the many places the scripture says that when Christ offered himself to die in our place, it was as an offering to God, as well as the very truth of Leviticus 17 that God requires a blood sacrifice to atone for the soul and that the sacrifice must be without blemish (1 Peter 1:19).

"And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour." (Ephesians 5:2)

"Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." (Romans 3:25-26)

"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" (Hebrews 9:14)

The idea that we do not need to be rescued from God also doesn't take into account that when God was destroying the world by the flood in Noah's time destroying Sodom and Gomorrah, etc there were people dying in torment needing to be saved from God. All the scriptures which Veronica gave about the wrath of God being poured out on the ungodly fit perfectly with this topic. Two more regarding when Christ comes back:

"And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him." (Jude 15)

"And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Revelation 6:15-17)

Though fully comprehending how those whom God loves need to be rescued from Him is deep, we can see by Romans 1:18 that God's wrath is against the ungodliness and unrighteousness of men- and God's love toward us is shown by sending Christ to save us from our sins (Matthew 1:21) the very result of ungodliness and unrighteousness- i.e. our sins are that which God's wrath is against. God's love is meant to turn us from and forgive us for that which He righteously hates (Hebrews 1:8-9) so we can be reconciled to Him and partake of His love. Yet if any won't deal with the rebellion which put Christ on the cross to begin with, then they are left under God's wrath. Here is where God is being patient with mankind that more might come to repentance and be saved.

"Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities." (Acts 3:26)

"For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries." (Hebrews 10:26-27)

"Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God" (Romans 2:4-5)

**Re: The Wrath of God, by William Law, on: 2011/6/13 17:50**

bump

**Re: , on: 2011/8/26 22:39**

bump