

THE LORD'S DAY

June 23, 2024

10 O'clock A.M.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REFLECTION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

**Oh sing to Yahweh a new song!
Sing to the LORD, all the earth!**

*Sing to the LORD, bless His name;
Tell of His salvation from day to day.*

**Declare His glory among the nations,
His marvelous works among all the peoples!**

*For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
All the gods of the peoples are worthless idols.*

But the LORD made the heavens!

*Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness
Tremble before Him, all the earth!*

*HYMN OF ADORATION

O Worship the King

#2

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

GOD'S NECESSARY WRATH

“The wrath of God is coming.”
(COLOSSIANS 3:6)

The wrath of God is a subject ignored by most believers. Perhaps we shy away from it because of the violent emotions and behavior we frequently associate with the word wrath when used of sinful human beings. We're reluctant, rightly so, to attribute that same attitude and activity to God.

I suspect, however, that the more basic reason we avoid or ignore the subject is that we simply don't think of our sinfulness as warranting that degree of judgment. Frankly, most people don't think they're that bad. A divine reprimand or an occasional slap on the wrist may be needed — but an outpouring of divine wrath? That's much too severe. Perhaps another reason we avoid the subject is that we don't want to think of our nice, decent, but unbelieving neighbors and relatives as subject to God's wrath.

The Bible, however, doesn't give us that option. Again and again it asserts that the wrath of God is expressed in both temporal and eternal judgment. “Noted biblical scholar Leon Morris pointed out that in the Old Testament alone, more than twenty words are used for the wrath of God, while the number of references to His wrath exceeds 580.

Although God's wrath does not contain the sinful emotions associated with human wrath, it does contain a fierce intensity arising from His settled opposition to sin and His determination to punish it to the utmost. God, by the very perfection of His moral nature, cannot but be angry at sin — not only because of its destructiveness to humans, but, more important, because of its assault on His divine majesty. This is not the mere petulance of an offended deity because His commands are not obeyed. It's rather the necessary response of God to uphold His moral authority in His universe.”

Holiness Day By Day [iBook version]
Jerry Bridges

¹³Get up! Consecrate the people and say, ‘Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow; for thus says Yahweh, God of Israel, “There are devoted things in your midst, O Israel. You cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the devoted things from among you.” ¹⁴In the morning therefore you shall be brought near by your tribes. And the tribe that Yahweh takes by lot shall come near by clans. And the clan that Yahweh takes shall come near by households. And the household that Yahweh takes shall come near man by man. ¹⁵And he who is taken with the devoted things shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of Yahweh, and because he has done an outrageous thing in Israel.”’

¹⁶So Joshua rose early in the morning and brought Israel near tribe by tribe, and the tribe of Judah was taken. ¹⁷And he brought near the clans of Judah, and the clan of the Zerahites was taken. And he brought near the clan of the Zerahites man by man, and Zabdi was taken. ¹⁸And he brought near his household man by man, and Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken. ¹⁹Then Joshua said to Achan, “My son, give glory to Yahweh God of Israel and give praise to him. And tell me now what you have done; do not hide it from me.” ²⁰And Achan answered Joshua, “Truly I have sinned against Yahweh God of Israel, and this is what I did: ²¹when I saw among the spoil a beautiful cloak from Shinar, and 200 shekels of silver, and a bar of gold weighing 50 shekels, then I coveted them and took them. And see, they are hidden in the earth inside my tent, with the silver underneath.”

²²So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and behold, it was hidden in his tent with the silver underneath. ²³And they took them out of the tent and brought them to Joshua and to all the people of Israel. And they laid them down before Yahweh. ²⁴And Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver and the cloak and the bar of gold, and his sons and daughters and his oxen and donkeys and sheep and his tent and all that he had. And they brought them up to the Valley of Achor. ²⁵And Joshua said, “Why did you bring trouble on us? Yahweh brings trouble on you today.” And all Israel stoned him with stones. They burned them with fire and stoned them with stones. ²⁶And they raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then Yahweh turned from his burning anger. Therefore, to this day the name of that place is called the Valley of Achor.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

A Westminster Creed

I believe in the one true and living God.

I believe there are three persons in the one true and living God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

I believe in God the Father who has foreordained all things.

I believe the Father made all things of nothing, by His powerful Word, in the space of six days, and all very good. The Father, by His providence, preserves and governs all His creatures and all their actions.

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Redeemer of God’s elect.

I believe that our Lord Jesus endured the miseries of this life, the wrath of God for us, the cursed death of the cross, and burial. He rose again from the dead on the third day, and ascended into heaven. He now sits at the right hand of God the Father and will come to judge the world on the last day.

I believe in the Holy Spirit who effectually applies the redemption of Christ to His elect.

I believe by the Holy Spirit’s sovereign grace we are effectually called, justified, and sanctified, and gathered into the visible church, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.

CONFESSION OF SIN

based on Daniel 9

Heavenly Father, You are the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant love with those who obey You. We have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from Your commandments. To You, O Lord, belongs righteousness, but to us open shame, because we have sinned against You. All of us have transgressed your law and turned aside, refusing to obey Your Voice. Listen to our pleas for mercy, and forgive us. Incline Your ear and hear. For we do not present our pleas before You because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive us through the sin-substitutionary death of Your Son Jesus. Amen.

**He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

*For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his
steadfast love toward those who fear him.*

**As far as the east is from the west, so far does he
remove our transgressions from us.**

*As a father shows compassion to his children, so, the LORD
shows compassion to those who fear him.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEVOTION

#647

*How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds
Ushers come forward at this time.*

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Doxology

*READING OF GOD'S WORD

Joshua 7
Pew Bible Pg, 215,216

PREACHING OF THE WORD

Achan's Sin

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

#672

Trust and Obey (vs.1,4,5)

*BENEDICTION

*GLORIA PATRI

#735

**Stand if you are able*

But the people of Israel broke faith in regard to the devoted things, for Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the devoted things. And the anger of Yahweh burned against the people of Israel.

² Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth-aven, east of Bethel, and said to them, "Go up and spy out the land." And the men went up and spied out Ai. ³ And they returned to Joshua and said to him, "Do not have all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not make the whole people toil up there, for they are few." ⁴ So about three thousand men went up there from the people. And they fled before the men of Ai, ⁵ and the men of Ai killed about thirty-six of their men and chased them before the gate as far as Shebarim and struck them at the descent. And the hearts of the people melted and became as water.

⁶ Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of Yahweh until the evening, he and the elders of Israel. And they put dust on their heads. ⁷ And Joshua said, "Alas, O Yahweh, why have you brought this people over the Jordan at all, to give us into the hands of the Amorites, to destroy us? Would that we had been content to dwell beyond the Jordan! ⁸ O Lord, what can I say, when Israel has turned their backs before their enemies! ⁹ For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it and will surround us and cut off our name from the earth. And what will you do for your great name?"

The Sin of Achan

¹⁰ Yahweh said to Joshua, "Get up! Why have you fallen on your face? ¹¹ Israel has sinned; they have transgressed my covenant that I commanded them; they have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen and lied and put them among their own belongings. ¹² Therefore the people of Israel cannot stand before their enemies. They turn their backs before their enemies, because they have become devoted for destruction. I will be with you no more, unless you destroy the devoted things from among you.