



## GROW IN GRACE NEWSLETTER!

PLEASE USE the Grow in Grace Newsletter for your own spiritual growth; and **AS A RESOURCE** to help equip you to MINISTER to others! **Volume 47, No. 13, April 5, 2022** / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. **"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD**

**JESUS CHRIST!**

**It was some years ago that, by the amazing grace of God, I began to grasp something of the great importance of the Biblical revelation of the Holy Wrath of God; and the amazing wonder of the Biblical teaching of Divine PROPITIATION! NO ONE WILL EVER UNDERSTAND THE LOVE OF GOD who has not first been moved by grace to cry out something like this: *'I AM ABIDING, DAY BY DAY, UNDER THE JUST AND HOLY WRATH OF GOD!'* (John 3:36) It is those who are under CONVICTION of their sin, of their own righteousness only being filthy rags, and that they will face JUDGMENT DAY before Holy God (John 16:8-11) — ONLY THESE will cry out for saving mercy! DEAR CHRISTIAN, YOU ONCE WERE 'A CHILD OF WRATH, EVEN AS OTHERS,' (Eph. 2:1-3) NOW IT IS TIME TO DRINK DEEPLY, BE UTTERLY AMAZED:**

### **The Holy Wrath of God is PROPIATIATED by GOD HIMSELF!**

There are many who act as if — "LOVE" — is God's only attribute. HOWEVER, THE WORD OF GOD IS PLAIN: "God is a just Judge, And God is angry with the wicked every day" (Psalm 7:11) "God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth; and is furious; the LORD will take vengeance on His adversaries, and He reserveth wrath for His enemies." (Nahum 1:2) The teaching of God's wrath is in the New Testament as well as the Old, **"For the wrath of God is revealed** from heaven against all ungodliness and

unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness" (Romans 1:18).

**GREAT REALITY: GOD HATES SIN!** From the beginning, God warned that disobedience, rebellion, would bring death.

Thus, sin pays wages— ***“the wages of sin is death!”*** (Romans 6:23) Thus, in holy justice, God is steadfast in His wrath against sinners. The sinner ABIDES UNDER the holy wrath of God! (John 3:36) The prophet Nahum states, "The LORD is slow to anger and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked." (Nahum 1:3) God cannot and will not simply overlook sin. He is holy and will not just pretend sin didn't happen.

**AND NOTE CAREFULLY:** God will punish SINNERS - not sin - but SINNERS in the lake of fire **and in the presence of** the LAMB OF GOD! **(Revelation 14:8-11; 20:11-15; 21:8)** YES, GOD IS LOVE— however, His love is holy and cannot be given at the expense of His holiness or justice. **SO, YES, THERE IS COMING A DAY WHEN the world will seek to hide from the WRATH OF THE LAMB!** (Rev. 6:14-17)

**NOW, CONSIDER THIS: Christ's Substitutionary Work on the Cross Made JESUS the Object of God's Wrath!** On the cross Christ was experiencing sin for sinners. ***"For He [GOD the Father] made Him [JESUS] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him"*** (2 Corinthians 5:21). ***"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree')"*** (Galatians 3:13) ***"Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.***

*He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. . . the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. . . it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You (GOD, THE FATHER) make His soul an offering for sin!"* (Isaiah 53:6-8, 10)  
**"And He (JESUS) is the PROPITIATION for our sins" (1 John 2:2).**

**The word 'PROPITIATION' means to turn away wrath by sacrifice. JESUS came to earth to become the sinners' sacrifice. CHRISTIAN: Jesus absorbed and SATISFIED God's holy wrath, which you/we deserved.**

## **Jesus was Actually Forsaken!**

Jesus, as Man, had lived in continuous fellowship with the Father - "**And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.**" (John 8:29). Yet, now, at the cross His fellowship with the Father was broken. There was a thick darkness covering the day (verse 45). Jesus was experiencing the wrath of God, the wrath which we deserved, as our substitute. **The word He uses for this, He takes from Psalm 22:1, FORSAKEN! "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"**

**Spurgeon said:** "I remember, also, that our blessed Lord had lived in unbroken fellowship with God, and to be forsaken was a new grief to Him. He had never known what the dark was till then: His life had been lived in the light of God... His fellowship with the Father was of the highest, deepest, fullest order; and what must the loss of it have been? We lose but drops when we lose our joyful experience of heavenly fellowship; and yet the loss is killing: but to our Lord Jesus Christ the sea was dried up I mean his sea of fellowship with the infinite God."

**Notice that Jesus SPOKE as Man to God, not as Son to Father.** His prayer addresses, "**My God, My God,**" *not* "**My Father!**" Jesus was functioning as a man functions and died on the cross functioning as a man. "The question has been asked, '**How can God forsake God?**' The answer must be that God the Father deserted the Son's human nature. . ." (William Hendriksen, New Testament Commentary on Matthew, page 971).

**THIS IS VITAL: On the cross Jesus never ceased to be who He always was and is— God.** "*God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself*" (2 Corinthians 5:19). Jesus functioned as a man, really and fully man— and He died as a man, experiencing suffering and death and the unknown as a man. He was forsaken that God might never leave nor forsake us. (Hebrews 13:5; Romans 8:31-39)

## **‘Jesus suffered ‘the punishment that brought us peace!’**

“In God’s mysterious yet amazing action the future judgment was brought forward and experienced by Christ the sinner’s substitute in order that all who belong to him might be justified here and now and escape the wrath to come. What happened to our Lord on the cross during those three hours of uncanny darkness and dereliction was absolute hell.

**‘My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?’** (Mark 15:34). He endured the awful judgment of God in body, mind and spirit. That figure on the cross was still a human being. Even though His appearance ‘was marred beyond human likeness’ (Isaiah 52:14), The Bible tells us that, ‘The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him’ (Isaiah 53:5). There on that central cross we have a glimpse on earth, in time and space, of what the future torment will be like. But the full horror cannot be depicted; it is veiled behind the three hours of silence and darkness.” (Author unknown)

## **JESUS DRANK ‘THE CUP!’**

God’s wrath or punishment of sinners is sometimes described as a cup. In the agony of Gethsemane Jesus prayed to the Father, **‘Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what You will’** (Mark 14:36). Later, when Jesus had to rebuke Peter he said, **‘Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given Me’** (John 18:11). This cup of the Lord’s wrath is spoken of by the prophets, in such passages as Isaiah 51:17-23 and Jer. 25:15-29. **When Jesus, who knew no sin, became sin for us, there on the cross He tasted the full fury of God’s wrath, in the place of sinners.**

**The ‘Cup’... on Judgment Day!** *‘If anyone worships the beast and his image... he, too, will drink of the wine of God’s fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of His wrath... The smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night’* (Revelation 14:9-11).

**THIS IS STUNNING:** The Lord Jesus Christ who received the full force of that punishment when He became the sinner’s substitute **is the very Person who has been appointed Judge on the Day of Judgment** and ‘He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of

our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power on that day...' (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; cf. Matthew 10:28; 25:4 1; Mark 9:43). **THESE WILL SIMPLY and profoundly receive JUSTICE. THEY WILL RECEIVE WHAT ALL SINNERS DESERVE—HOLY JUSTICE. AND GOD RIGHTLY RECEIVES PRAISE FOR POURING OUT JUSTICE: REVELATION 16:1-7**

**The Atoning Sacrifice— stated again!** The substitutionary death of Jesus Christ as a sacrifice **to propitiate** or satisfy the wrath of God **is essential— for** by his atoning death Christ has made full, sufficient, and final satisfaction for the sins of those He represents.

**JESUS is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, who satisfies God's righteous wrath and who completely satisfies the demands of the law.** The liberals of the past rejected Christ's propitiatory sacrifice and many modern evangelicals seem to be embarrassed by it. Without it, however, it would be a sheer impossibility for God to justify sinners.

**In order for God to remain true to his character, sin must be justly dealt with. THEREFORE, God has presented Jesus Christ as the propitiatory sacrifice in order to 'demonstrate His justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus' (Romans 3:25-26).** Sinners need not only a representative head who is righteous, but one who will act as their substitute and endure the penalty which their sin deserves.

**JESUS on the Cross is the love of God in Christ which is at work propitiating his own righteous WRATH for the benefit of us sinners.**

**'Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins' (1 John 4:10; cf. also 2:1-2 [AV]).**

**REDEMPTION and PROPITIATION— Romans 3:21-26**

**Romans 3:21** - The necessary righteousness to be provided by God was never intended to be achieved by the law. Rather, that righteousness is altogether apart from the law. As verses found later in the chapter explain (e.g., verse 28), the plan for righteousness has always been centered in the person and work of the Messiah and not in the works of the law. (I Peter 1:11)

**Romans 3:22, 23** - The righteousness of God is manifested in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. **That righteousness is placed upon the sinner the moment that faith is placed in Jesus Christ.** Throughout the New Testament (even in places referring to the Old Testament period such as in Romans 4), faith is declared to be the medium through which the sinner is saved from sin. ***JESUS Christ proclaims, "No man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6) Faith, when placed in Jesus Christ, is the channel through which sinners are declared righteous by God and are saved.***

**Thus, Ephesians 2:8-10 declares,** *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."*

**Christ did not need righteousness; He already had it.** Nevertheless, He purchased so that He could redeem those who could not afford it. ***The payment that was paid by the Lord Jesus Christ made it possible for redemption to be free for all those given by the Father, to the Son. (John 17:2)*** Only the grace of God could afford the price of justification!

**Romans 3:25 - Propitiation.** The Lord Jesus Christ was given by God to be a propitiation for sinners. The idea conveyed by the term 'propitiation' ***"signifies the turning away of wrath by an offering."*** This idea is firmly connected with the Old Testament concept of the wrath of God upon the sin of men. **The death of Christ stands as the means of turning God's divine wrath from sinners upon Christ Himself.** As Leon Morris states, ***"... God Himself provides the means of removing His own wrath!"***

**Romans 3:26 - God remains just in that His wrath was poured out upon sin. However, He retains His position as the Justifier in that the Lord Jesus Christ absorbed that wrath on the Cross.** The sin of man was placed on Christ (Is. 53:4-6; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24) and He bore man's punishment accordingly. **By that same process of imputation,** Christ was able to achieve righteousness on our behalf. It is His righteousness that is reckoned to the account of the sinner who believes.

**It is extremely important to note that the declaration of a sinner being justified is just that - a declaration.** Despite this declaration, the sinner remains sinful but is redeemed and forgiven and now indwelt by the Holy Spirit. The righteousness of Christ is placed on the account of the believing sinner. Therefore, **it is by JESUS CHRIST'S righteousness alone** that the sinner is declared righteous.

The believing sinner is declared righteous and has that standing before God as if he were righteous. Nevertheless, that righteousness is not his own. Though justified, he remains nothing more than a justified sinner.

**Nothing changes in the sinner in order for him to be justified.** If anything did change, it would not be the work of Christ alone, and that is simply not allowed by Scripture. **Once the righteousness of Christ is placed on the sinner's account, then, and only then,** is everything in the sinner changed.

That is why Paul declares the following: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

***And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;***

***To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.”***

(2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

THINK ON THESE THINGS... and thus, be ASTOUNDED and Worship!

Grace to all in Christ! [www.southsidegallatin.org](http://www.southsidegallatin.org) James Bell

[Note: This week’s article was collected and pulled together from articles kept on my computer from many years back. If the sources of quotes are known, they are given.]

## **NEWS NOTES:**

### **SUNDAY SERVICES, APRIL 10, 17, 24 ... / 2022**

**1. \*\*\* Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children’s classes, Youth, and Adult classes.

**2. \*\*\* WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

### **ADDITIONAL SUNDAY SERVICES:**

1. **4/10/22 ... 5pm** Training Faithful Men
2. **4/17/22 ... The climax of the service: THE LORD'S TABLE**
3. **4/24/22 ... FOURTH SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE at 5PM.** (Adam, Bradley, and others give specific preparation for this Service.... and, this month, James Poteete scheduled to preach.)

**EVERY SATURDAY\*\*\*** 8:00 AM, — Men's Bible Study! (*Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Hardee's Biscuits are available!*)

**\*\*\* NEXT Ladies Bible Study, April 19, @ 11:00 AM**

**TUESDAYS: WEEKLY Youth Group Meeting, ages 12 and up ... Tuesdays a 7:15pm... at Jaden and Rhi's home...**

### **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ SOUTHSIDE:**

**6:30pm— come in back 'double doors' under the Drive Thru awning!**

**\*\* Adult Prayer Service, BACK AT CHURCH BUILDING**

**\*\* Young FAMILIES Prayer Service [ADAM or Jaden weekly communicate as to LOCATION]**

**\*\*\* LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD BY MAIL or by ONLINE GIVING:**

**SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) — MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066/ OR...  
TO GIVE via ONLINE GIVING:  
<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>**

**HEALTH REMINDERS as to CHURCH SERVICES AND as to Responding with WISDOM and NOT fear IN SEEKING TO KEEP AS HEALTHY AS WE CAN— SO AS TO BE ACTIVE IN THE KINGDOM BUSINESS OF THE LORD!**

**1. IF YOU ARE SICK... [OR if you are in a state of high immune deficiency or if (at home or work) you are caring for one who is sick; or if you have • Fever; • Coughing; • Chills; • Headache; • Sore throat; etc.], Please stay home!]**

**2. IF YOU ARE HEALTHY and well... you may or may not choose to wear a mask... WE CONTINUE to encourage FREEDOM as to 'social distancing'... masks ... vaccine choices, etc. — PLEASE HONOR THE LORD, by continuing to give sensitivity and respect one to another.**

**3. In addition to carefulness, good hydration, good nutrition, and sleep— ALSO: SEEK TO BUILD UP A STRONG IMMUNE SYSTEM! I PERSONALLY TAKE ELDERBERRY, VITAMIN C, ZINC, GINGER, VITAMIN D, Quercetin, and a good multi-vitamin that includes fiber... And Ivermectin.**

**DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH! BE PROACTIVE! BE PREVENTIVE!** LET each of us DO OUR PART IN personal hygiene — **please wash your hands with SOAP; and use nearby SANITIZER.**

**4. HERE IS AN EDUCATIONAL resource from ... FROM Doctors who successfully treat covid-19 patients! => <https://breggin.com/covid-19-home-treatment/> //// Peter McCullough, MD, BRIEF. EXCELLENT: → <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAHi3lX3oGM>**

The PDF booklet: A Guide to Home-Based COVID Treatment can be downloaded ... **focus is on PREVENTION and early treatment:** [COVID Treatment - Truth for Health Foundation](https://www.truthforhealth.org/patientguide/patient-treatment-guide/)<https://www.truthforhealth.org/patientguide/patient-treatment-guide/>