

God's Not Angry With You

No Matter What Happened!

by Pastor John Hamel

"God judges the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day." (Psalm 7:11)

Some people have taken the above verse of Scripture to mean that God is some kind of moody, white-robed, long-bearded, puritanical monster. They present Him as hanging over Heaven's balcony hoping that someone, somewhere will make a mistake so He can strike them with lightning just because He's "God." Well, that's not what this verse of Scripture is communicating. Yes, the Bible does indeed state that God is angry with the wicked everyday. You just read that for yourself. However, the only reason He is angry with them is because they continue to reject His protection and provision, which He is offering them through His Son, Jesus. He's angry with them because He loves them and they are cursing themselves eternally. That's extremely upsetting to Him and understandably so.

Yes, Jesus did get angry with the religious leaders of His day but only because they insisted that He not demonstrate His Father's love for the suffering by healing the sick on the Sabbath. (Mark 3:1-5) You would be angry, as well, if some religious leader hindered one of your sick loved ones from being helped. Although you may get angry at injustice, that does not make you an angry person. Just because God is angered by injustice and man's rejection of His blessings doesn't make Him a big, bad, angry God.

The Bible says that God not only HAS love for all of humanity, including His rejecters, but He IS love. (1John 4:8) Since God IS love, how could He not love you? How could He be angry with you if you are not rejecting Him? The Bible says, "*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*" (John 3:16) When God allowed Jesus to come to this little blue planet and die for the sins of humanity, He had you specifically in mind. He did not want you to have to pay the unbearable price for your own sins because the price, death, was

too extreme. ***"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."*** (Romans 6:23) This is why God, in His great love, became a man in the Person of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 2:5-8) God needed a substitute sacrifice for man who was willing, sinless, human and Divine.

"Human" because it was man who sinned. (Genesis 3:6-10) Since a man committed original sin only a man could pay the penalty for that sin. "Willing" because an unwilling substitute for man would be unacceptable to God. "Sinless" because the sacrifice must be untainted by sin to be acceptable. "Divine" because the substitute had to have the ability to rise from the dead in order that He would not be forever lost to the God of Love. Only Jesus could meet the criteria of willing, sinless, human and Divine, which He did, covering for you and me.

So the next time someone tells you that "God is angry with you" say, "Not with me He's not. I've not rejected His love demonstrated through Jesus. I accept Jesus' sacrifice on my behalf. Jesus is my choice and God is protecting and providing for me." Then pick up your Bible and start reading. Everywhere you find the name "God" or "Jesus," replace it with the word "Love." You'll really start getting revelation about His Love for you.

Be Blessed ... Pastor John and Barbara Hamel