

Postmodernism believes in a spiritual reality founded in paganism and not biblical truth. There is an admission of “god” but tragically this spiritual reality is presented as dualism. In Postmodernism the spiritual reality impacting earthly life is two “forces.” Postmodernism ignores the “dark side” of their dualistic spiritual world. Instead of attributing any evil on earth to spiritual forces, the Postmodernist suggests that such results from mankind’s arrogance. Thus there is no “sin.” There is no “angry God” punishing man. Postmodernism only acknowledges a God of love.”

Scoffers have suggested that the concept of the biblical God evolved from the angry chieftain motif of the Old Testament and morphed into the benevolent deity of the New Testament narratives as man’s intelligence developed. The Scoffer violently reacts to any suggestion that his “tolerant god” would be angry at man.

REVIEWING THE TREACHEROUS TRANSITION

Why do people make the decisions they do? Their decision-making matrix is based upon the Postmodern Period. There are few who refuse to follow the piping of Postmodernism.

This transition has infected every aspect of earthly living. The cunning strategy is to deceive mankind so he does not “love the truth.” Those who reject the truth of God *will perish*. (2 Thessalonians 2:10-13)

The anger of God is the control of civilization’s behavior. If Satan can erase the divine anger he succeeds in his objective of removing behavior control.

The emotionally based decision-making matrix of Postmodernism has replaced the fact based decision-making matrix. The only criterion for “making sense” is what each one “feels” to be right.

The greatest tragedy...*no one confronts them with their contemptible treatment of the absolute truth of God’s revelation*. These are allowed to proceed further and further into their damnable beliefs and actions while those who believe in God’s absolutes remain silent.

THE PESTERING PRESENCE

If the “feel good” philosophy is to become an uncontested governing in civilization, then God’s anger has to be neutralized and censored.

Those seeking to delegitimize the God of Scriptures have realized that the holy anger must be removed if mankind is to accept a god-less existence. These blasphemers wish to portray a contrived

supernatural god that only has “love” as His nature. Here are two amazing statements...

God’s temper tantrums. Modern Christians may talk about God as a loving father, or even a Jesus buddy, the kind you’d want to play golf with, but in reality Bible-God goes out of his way to be intimidating. Worse, he appears to lose control of his temper at times, lashing out like an oversized thwarted three year old; and his earthly representatives, the prophets—including Jesus—do the same.

Times when the Bible God is worse than Satan. In the Bible, Satan is described as a roaring lion who prowls the earth, seeking whom he may devour. But if you actually read the stories, Satan doesn’t do much other than to tempt people into disobeying the dictates of Yahweh, who acts like a heavenly dictator with borderline personality disorder. God, by contrast, professes his undying love, kindness and mercy, but then commands his minions to commit brutal atrocities when he isn’t up for it himself.

Modern mankind struggles with questions of God. “Is God Angry? Loving? Wrathful? Kind? Just? Merciful? Or is He NONE of the above?” According to Postmodern consensus there is neither right nor wrong answers. Everyone is to have an answer that is “personally meaningful” to him.

The Postmodern’s imbalanced god rejects any anger, or divine expectations for behavior, or restrictive inspired commands. Although these are quick to dismiss the idea that God’s commands should be cast aside they are insistent that we must obey God’s command to “love one another.”

However, as persistently as the Postmodern mind seeks to dismiss God’s anger, the reality of the divine wrath remains a pestering presence.

And this really irritates the “feel good” sheeple!

THE TWISTED, TORTURED LOGIC

There is a sad irony in the lives of those governed by Postmodernism. The consequence is instability. All becomes dysfunctional. Nothing is definite. Nothing provides the urgent answers for mankind's yearnings. All is chaos. So each “group” pursues its own personal realities. It is a vicious cycle feeding insecurity and bringing only emptiness and personal meaninglessness to earthly existence.

By repudiating absolute truth the Postmodernist has taken a blind leap into the unknown and has found nothing! Total helplessness! Total meaninglessness! Total misery!

It is affirmed that anger is not an attribute of God because the only attribute of God is love. “For something to be an attribute of God, it has to be something that God exercises before all worlds...In other words, whatever is not expressed between the Father, Son and Spirit before and apart from His creation is NOT an attribute of God...Scripture tells us that God has only one unchanging attitude toward humanity. That one attitude is LOVE.”

If the above reasoning is correct then even the cherished attribute of “love” falls victim to this argument. *By seeking to erase God's anger one unwittingly erases God's love!*

There is a willful refusal to address the fact that the basis of his God-is-only-love theology is also the very basis that establishes the anger and wrath of God. His Postmodern mind is able to grasp God's love but nonchalantly ignores God's wrath and anger.

One more illustration reveals how some seek to preach an unbalanced God: “Clearly the text has something important to teach, but, it can be dangerously misunderstood. What it doesn't teach is that God gets angry, that God is sometimes furious with us...God doesn't get angry like we do...When St Paul tells us that when we sin, we feel ‘the wrath of God’ he is not telling us that God gets angry with us when we sin. Rather we get angry at ourselves when we sin.”

The inconsistency—If my personal reality approves me doing “sin” why should I be angry at myself?

Those bewitched by the postmodern philosophy have retreated to a position that cannot be explained by reasonable experiences or defended by articulated principles of consistency or advocated by a doctrine of correspondence to objective reality.

THE MUTED MUSINGS

History verifies that tragedy results when God's anger is rejected. When God is indifferently treated, citizens never consider that their religious beliefs and practices, behavior, speech, lifestyle, dress, recreation, morality, marriage, employment or a myriad of other situations, might be offensive to the Lord God of Hosts. In today's Church there is no restraint; no boundaries; no consideration; no fear and no veneration. There is only a muted silence.

Most Churches will admit God's anger with a whispered hush. The hushing of God's anger is seen occurring in four different ways.

- ✓ *The Church denies the anger of God.*
- ✓ *The Church states there were two Gods of the Bible.*
- ✓ *By reinterpreting the concept of anger.*
- ✓ *Does not deny God's anger but all is only lip service.*

Voices have been muted, hymns have been censored, sermons have been neutered, and Christians' sensitivities to the Almighty's anger have been calloused.

THE EXPLANATION FOR THE ERASURE

Why does the fact of God's anger arouse so much displeasure today?

- ✓ *There is only room for “Self.”*
- ✓ *Any “god” must be a tolerant god.*
- ✓ *A god is desired who relishes the sentimentality of the moment.*

THE COMPATIBILITY AND COMPLEMENTING

The Bible teaches that God's love and anger are not contradictory but are complimentary. The message of the gospel unites God's love and anger (1 John 2:1). This is illustrated by the cross:

- ✓ The cross accepted the anger of God (Hebrews 10:9).
- ✓ The cross provided the “propitiation” (1 John 2:1)
- ✓ The cross “reconciled” (Colossians 1:22)
- ✓ The cross removed the “enmity” (Ephesians 2:11-16)
- ✓ The cross “rescues” us from the wrath of God (1 Thessalonians 1:10; Colossians 3:1-17)

The cross was *the only means for the only sacrifice* that would appease the divine anger (2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9). The cross was necessary to answer the anger of God and is an appropriate visual of how God's love and anger are complimentary and not contradictory.

THE IMPACT AND INTRUSION

The Scriptures are an absolute authority designed to provide mankind with a perfect governing system on earth. How does the biblical doctrine of God's anger impact mankind?

- ✓ God's anger impacts the object of God's wrath.
- ✓ God's anger impacts by instilling a fear of God.
- ✓ God's anger impacts by validating the doctrine of Hell.
- ✓ God's anger impacts mankind by the Cross.

THE PRACTICAL CHALLENGE

The fact that God's love and anger are equally essential and fully compatible causes perplexity to some.

The Church today is to preach the message of sin, atonement and eternal existence. This is unwelcomed because postmodern culture does not "feel good" about such preaching. The first feature of today's relevant church is the erasure of God's anger and the focus upon a divine permissive love.

They forsake the anger of God and abandon civilization to the anarchy of some nebulous "love" that tolerates everything and censors nothing except the absolutes of the Bible.

THE STRAW MAN OF CONTRADICTION

God's anger is evidence of God's love. God's anger:

- ✓ There is no true love without wrath
- ✓ There is a comprehensive model of character
- ✓ There is spiritual security and peace
- ✓ There is a blessed assurance
- ✓ These are complimentary and necessary

THE FINAL RESOLUTION

It is amazing that modern culture entertains a comment describing God's anger such as: "In reality Bible-God goes out of his way to be intimidating. Worse, he appears to lose control of his temper at times, lashing out like an oversized thwarted three year old; and his earthly representatives, the prophets—including Jesus—do the same."

What results when the holy wrath is no longer a governing restriction upon man's beliefs and behaviors? Sadly civilization devolves into chaos.

Only God's Word can provide us with a balanced understanding of God's attributes. Only the Bible can reveal to us the appropriate reaction of mankind to the wrath and anger of God.

The impossibility of separating the love of God from the anger of God is answered by one biblical phrase: "The wrath of the Lamb of God" (Revelation 6:16). This phrase combines the two attributes that modern culture wishes to separate. This phrase emphasizes that the Lamb's sacrifice provided the foundation for appeasing God's holy justice. This reality of the Almighty's anger and justice, like the reality of gravity, cannot be ignored!

There is only one appropriate response when the love of God and the anger of God are discussed—complete and unqualified submission (Acts 2:37-42).

This is the response that modern man must make. It admits the fact that God's anger is justified because mankind has rejected God's will for self will. It seeks to appease the anger of God by accepting the only possible propitiation—the sacrifice of the Lamb of God for man's sins. This response was demonstrated in the first century and is the pattern by which modern man is to obey God. Will you admit the justice of the anger of God and accept the fact that you are an object of God's wrath and then submit to the same commands that those in Acts 2 followed so you can escape the holy wrath?

"Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?" (Revelation 6:16-17)

The Postmodern mind finds the anger of God inconvenient. So it seeks to explain that discomfort away or deny it or redress it according to their individual tastes.