

## JOHN 3:36

He who believes in Christ has eternal life and is saved from the wrath that was upon him before he believed. But for whoever does not believe in Christ, the wrath of God remains on him.

Believers have been made righteous through faith in Jesus and are saved from the wrath to come by the life of Christ (Romans 5:10).

Since believers are justified through faith (Rom. 5:1), this justification was not attained when Christ died, but when the person began to believe in Christ.

The wrath to come is toward those who have not been born again of the Spirit, but have constantly defied God's effort to save them. God hates all sin and unrighteousness and His wrath is never appeased nor ceases in their regard. The believer is moved out from under the wrath of God by being made a new creation in Christ. God will complete His work in believers and they will enter His presence totally sinless and totally righteous.

God never changes. His love never changes. His wrath is never appeased. The death of Christ has nothing to do with appeasing God's wrath. The sinless death of Christ condemns sin to extinction because sin killed a sinless Man. God was in Christ condemning sin and reconciling the world to Himself. Jesus is the Last Adam whereby sin, death, and Satan are defeated and this defeat will be consummated by the wrath of the Lamb. The Father has given Jesus all judgment in heaven and earth (John 5:22).

The love and righteousness of God never limit each other. Justice does not require that God be vindicated and forgiveness in God's heart toward man needs no payment for sin. God freely forgives without any retribution or payment. The Bible never says that God must be reconciled to man. It always says that man must be reconciled to God. Man must be changed. God never changes. Provisional reconciliation means that God has freely forgiven all men in His heart and is giving opportunity for man to receive reconciliation not having sin counted against them (2 Corinthians 5:19). All mankind is made reconcilable in Christ by His being the Last Adam with victory over sin, death, and Satan. While we were enemies we were provisionally reconciled to God through the death of His Son. When a person chooses to be

reconciled to God judicially, he does so through cooperation with Holy Spirit conviction being led to saving faith in Jesus (Romans 5:10 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-19).

The lost world often explains God from their own dark and sinful perspective and seeks reconciliation through appeasing the wrath of God through sacrifice or self-torture. Some perceive the God of the Bible from this same wrong perspective. They believe that they will not escape the wrath of God unless His wrath has been poured out on Jesus in their place. They see Jesus as a protection or shield against God's wrath. They divide the Trinity instead of allowing the Trinity to work together in perfect harmony. The Bible never says that Jesus was punished by the Father in our place to appease His wrath toward us. The Father did not pour out His wrath on the Son. But the Father did allow sin to pour out its wrath on the Son so that sin is condemned to the utmost and sentenced to extinction.

#### OUR ONLY HOPE

Jesus is our only hope for a future life of peace and happiness.

Jesus is our only hope for life now with its pains and sorrows.

Seeking Jesus is not as painful as seeking worldly pleasures.

Jesus is God our Creator and He loves us more than we love ourselves.

Jesus became human and obeyed every rule for life.

Sinful men could not endure the perfection of Jesus.

Jesus threatened their lifestyle and comforts.

Jesus allowed sin to kill His physical body.

Sin is condemned for killing the sinless Jesus.

Sin is sentenced to extinction.

Jesus arose from death with authority over all things.

Jesus will make new every person who will seek Him.

**By faith in Jesus, we are born into a new realm of life.**

**By faith in Jesus, we live with His help through our pain.**

**Our new life is eternal and possesses a new body awaiting us.**

**Eternal life is knowing God the Father and Jesus His Son.**

**I enjoy eternal life now by getting to know God through Jesus.**

**Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.**

**John 14:6      2 Corinthians 5      New Living Translation**