

WHO GOD GETS ANGRY WITH

Romans 1:18-23

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: Nobody pleases everybody all the time and some people never please anybody anytime. God indeed loves every person equally and Jesus came to die for every person, however there are cases where/when God gets angry with people. In general, God is angry with most of the human race and has some good reasons to be angry. In God's eyes mankind in general is guilty and deserves God's anger and wrath. Who God gets angry with is the subject of this study.

I. PEOPLE REJECT WHAT THEIR CONSCIENCES AND THOUGHTS TELL THEM ABOUT GOD (v19)

1. There is much about God that people cannot know but there is a great deal that can be known:
 - People can be led to know about God, but they do not worship Him as such.
 - People have a sense of God but they cover it up and even try to get rid of it.
2. The instinctive awareness of God is every person is there and it is strong and every person can see that God exists.
 - Every person can know God and in God's eyes nobody is without excuse.
 - People choose not to know God and suppress it and rejects that which is innate, that awareness of God that he/she was born with.
3. God is angry and shows His anger at those who reject what their conscience tells them about God.

II. PEOPLE REJECT WHAT THEY SEE AROUND THEM THAT SHOWS GOD (v20)

1. People can look at the creation of the earth and space, plants, animals, people and clearly see that all was made by a Creator and sees that the Creator is the supreme God having:
 - life and being, beauty and majesty, intelligence and knowledge, glory and honor, energy and power, value and morality, purpose and meaning, design and order, things not to be understood.
2. People can see the deity of God when they look at nature with an open mind and see that God:
 - cares and provides for what He has created, gives life, regenerates, replenishes, deserves worship and obedience.
 - Nobody is without excuse for not recognizing God, no defense, no answer, no reason to justify his/her rejection of God.
 - Acts 14:17; Psalm 19:1; 97:6

III. PEOPLE DO NOT HONOR GOD NOR GIVE HIM THANKS (v21)

1. People can clearly know God within themselves, in their own thoughts and consciences and by just looking around and see creation, nature and the heavens.
 - They can know that God gives life and cares and provides for them and God runs everything, giving meaning to life but people do not glorify Him, nor worship, obey, or serve Him as God.
2. When people reject God their thoughts (reasonings, deliberations, conclusions, etc.) become vain, empty, futile, senseless and worthless.
 - Pushing God out of one's mind allows the mind to be filled with other things that take over.
 - Genesis 6:5; Psalm 10:4; 94:11; Proverbs 6:16-19; 15:26; Ezekiel 8:12

3. When people ignore God, their hearts become darkened, senseless, no understanding and blind.
 - Psalm 82:5; Proverbs 2:13; 4:19; Acts 28:27; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 4:18; 2 Timothy 3:7
4. When people's minds are filled with empty imaginations and their hearts are darkened, they do not glorify God nor offer any thanks to Him.
 - Matthew 7:26-27; James 4:17

IV. PEOPLE BECOME PRIDEFUL AND TURN AWAY FROM GOD (vv22-23)

1. People reject God, believing that they:
 - are too wise and therefore don't believe in God.
 - are too intelligent to need to rely on the "fables" of the Bible.
 - are very capable of taking care of their own selves.
 - are able to create their own world and future.
 - are able to rely upon their own ideas.
 - are quite able to create their own standards and laws to control life.
2. People think that they are wise and don't need God but in reality people without God are fools:
 - God does exist but when one's heart is filled with his/her own thoughts, has his/her own guiding principle for life, he/she has replaced God with something else.
 - God is dethroned and erased from their lives.
 - Isaiah 29:14; Jeremiah 4:22; 1 Corinthians 1:18-19; 2:6-7; 3:19-20; Colossians 2:8, 23
 - People exchange God for their own self-made idol/god:
 - God always has been, always will be and will always exist, unchanging, unaging and incorruptible.
 - People swap God for their own selves, becoming their own:
 - god of life.
 - master of the world.
 - law-givers of their own laws.
 - determiners of their own morality.
 - standards by which their life is to be governed.
 - People want to control their own lives, to do as they wish, to be recognized, honored and to receive credit and acknowledgment for their own selves, so they turn from God to their own ideas.
 - Acts 17:29; 1 John 5:21; Deuteronomy 11:26-28; Isaiah 42:8

CONCLUSION:

1. God is God and there is no other.
2. All that exists, God made.
3. Any of God's creation that fails to recognize Him as God will receive God's anger and wrath.
4. No person has God's ability to run his/her own life as God intends, much less the lives of others or the universe.
5. Every human being has within him/herself the knowledge that God is God.
6. To reject, ignore, to not recognize and accept God as God for whatever "reason" is unacceptable by God.
7. God is God, let every living creature recognize it, accept it and give God proper honor and respect.

