

The Wrath of God Begins

Revelation 6:9-17.

Revelation 6:9-11

⁹ When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. ¹⁰ They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?” ¹¹ Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

I. God's Wrath Towards Unbelievers is Just vv. 9-11

- A. The people crying out to God for justice are those who came to Jesus as Lord and Savior during the Great Tribulation and were mercilessly slaughtered for it.
- B. God has offered mercy through the cross of Christ, but the unbeliever rejects it.

II. God's Wrath Waits for Those who Refuse to Repent of their Rebellion Against Him vv. 12-14.

¹² When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, ¹³ and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. ¹⁴ The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.

II. God's Wrath Waits for Those who Refuse to Repent of their Rebellion Against Him vv. 12-14.

- A. With the sixth seal God begins to judge the earth in His wrath with catastrophic natural disasters.
- B. God's wrath towards unbelievers is justified because in their rebellion they willfully refuse to honor God Him (Romans 1:8-23).
- C. Perhaps the greatest illustration of their refusal to honor God is that they kill His people.

III. God's Wrath Will be Unleashed Equitably on those Who Continue their Rebellion Against Him vv. 15-17.

¹⁵ Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ calling to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, ¹⁷ for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?”

III. God's Wrath Will be Unleashed Equitably on those Who Continue their Rebellion Against Him vv. 15-17.

- A. The terror of God's wrath comes upon all unrepentant people regardless of their status.
- B. God is not willing that any should perish like, He wants all people to repent of their sins and call on Jesus for salvation (2 Peter 3:9; Romans 10:11-14).
- C. Jesus has commanded us to share God's offer of salvation from His wrath (Matthew 28:18-20).
- D. God commands all people everywhere to repent (Acts 17:31-32).
- E. There is salvation in no other name except Jesus (Acts 4:12; John 3:36; 14:6).