

# God: Love & Anger?

## I. God's Anger: The Refusal to Honor the Lord

Lamentations 2:1-6, 21-22 (NIV®)

How the Lord has covered the Daughter of Zion with **the cloud of his anger**,  
in **the day of his anger!** **v.1**

**Without pity ... in his wrath** he has torn down the strongholds of the Daughter of Judah. **v.2**

**In fierce anger ...** He has withdrawn his right hand at the approach of the enemy. **v.3**

**... he has poured out his wrath like fire** on the tent of the Daughter of Zion. **v.4**

**The Lord is like an enemy;** he has swallowed up Israel. **v.5**

**... in his fierce anger** he has spurned both king and priest. **v.6**

<sup>21</sup>“Young and old lie together in the dust of the streets; my young men and maidens have fallen by the sword. **You have slain them in the day of your anger; you have slaughtered them without pity.** <sup>22</sup>“As you summon to a feast day, so you summoned against me terrors on every side. In the day of the Lord's anger no one escaped or survived; those I cared for and reared, my enemy has destroyed. **vs. 21-22**

## II. Learn the Character of God

Ecclesiastes 12:13–14 (NASB®)

The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this *applies to* every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

### A. God is Not Like Us!

Job 36:26 (NIV®)

How great is God—beyond our understanding!

Psalms 90:2 (NIV®)

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Hebrews 1:10–12 (NIV®)

<sup>10</sup> He also says, “In the beginning, O Lord, **you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.** <sup>11</sup> They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. <sup>12</sup> You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But **you remain the same, and your years will never end.**”

Psalms 102:24–28 (NIV®)

<sup>24</sup> So I said: “Do not take me away, O my God, in the midst of my days; your years go on through all generations. <sup>25</sup> In the beginning **you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.** <sup>26</sup> They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. <sup>27</sup> But **you remain the same, and your years will never end.**

<sup>28</sup> The children of your servants will live in your presence; their descendants will be established before you.”

### B. We Can Learn God's Ways

Exodus 33:13 (NIV®) (Moses)

If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you.

Leviticus 10:10–11 (NIV®)

<sup>10</sup>You must distinguish between the holy and the common, between the unclean and the clean, <sup>11</sup>and you must teach the Israelites all the decrees the Lord has given them through Moses.”

1 Corinthians 3:1–3 (NIV®)

<sup>1</sup>Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly—mere infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. <sup>3</sup>You are still worldly.

Hebrews 5:14 (NIV®)

But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

### III. Honoring the Lord is the Best Choice!

#### **Honoring the Lord is Both an Attitude & an Activity**

Proverbs 3:9–10 (NIV®)

<sup>9</sup>Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; <sup>10</sup>**then** your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

#### **Jesus, Worthy of Honor**

John 5:23 (NIV®)

... He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.

Revelation 5:12 (NIV®)

In a loud voice they sang: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”

#### **Honoring God in Our Homes**

Exodus 20:12 (NIV®)

Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Matthew 15:4 (NIV®)

For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother’ and ‘Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.’

#### **An Esteem Bestowed by God**

Proverbs 15:33 (NIV®)

The fear of the Lord teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

Proverbs 22:4 (NIV®)

Humility and the fear of the Lord bring wealth and honor and life.

Proverbs 29:23 (NIV®)

A man’s pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor.

#### **The Final/Ultimate Reward of Righteousness**

John 5:44 (NIV®)

How can you believe if you accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain the praise (honor) that comes from the only God?