

1 Thessalonians 5 :9:10 English Standard Version (ESV)

Pray

[1Th 5:9-10 ESV]

9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

When I was asked to teach on these verses, I thought “ how am I going to talk for twenty minutes on two short verses that total 34 words, then I said to myself, how am I going to work the “God wants me to have a Ferrari” theme into those 34 words.....Here’s how

God has not destined us for wrath –

God created us to be perfect, and he blessed his creation:

[Genesis 1:27-28, 31 ESV]

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ...

Do you have children because you want to inflict your wrath on them – no you have them and love them – no its only when they get older and surly that you want to inflict your wrath on the little sons of guns –

God created man and BLESSED them – gave them the world, I mean literally –“fill the earth and subdue it” is what he said

When God thinks some is very good, that means it is perfect – God by his very nature can't create something imperfect

Genesis 1:31

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

So God didn't destine us for wrath, we brought that on ourselves, remember Eve in the Garden of Eden and the one rule – you know the fall and ruination of all mankind

Because we were made in Gods image we had free will, from day one in the garden:

[Genesis 2:16-17 ESV]

16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "**You may surely** eat of every tree of the garden,

17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Adam and Eve had the Lord's permission to eat of every tree in the garden, but (however) if you choose to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil you shall surely die.

Just because you can do something doesn't mean you should, especially if the Lord God tells you it is a bad idea.

They would have lived forever in the garden (remember they were a perfect creation) but when they disobeyed God, (one rule) they brought sin and corruption to their perfection and death.

By the way, it seems whenever I am up here, my teachings always include me talking about the "fall" there is a reason for that, when I sit down to read the bible, and being OCD I always start at the beginning, I read about creation, the garden, Eve being made from Adam, then I get to chapter 3, and the fall, that's when I start banging my head on the table, screaming why, why, why and sob and cry for hours – oh yea, today's lesson

That is the first reason that we should, by all rights be deserving of God's wrath (one rule)

Maybe now would be a good time to remind us what God's wrath is like,

First, we have the flood:

[Gen 6:5-7 ESV]

5 The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

6 And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.

7 So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them."

Then Sodom and Gomorrah:

[Gen 19:24 ESV]

24 Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of heaven.

One more:

[Exo 14:27-28 ESV]

27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea.

28 The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained.

Wrath of God, Bad, wrath of God directed at you, really, really bad

Here is the good news, that's not the wrath we are talking about today.

The bad news is, this wrath is MUCH worse, at least for those that don't believe in Jesus.

[Revelation 20:15 ESV]

15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

That is the ultimate wrath of God, real death, being separated from God for ever.

Because of sin

We sin every day, maybe not on purpose (there are people that do sin on purpose) but we do sin, myself included

Many of us are familiar with the teachings in John of the woman who was brought to Jesus and the Pharisees said the law of Moses said she should be stoned to death for committing adultery, what did Jesus say:

[John 8:7 ESV]

7 And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her."

We sin every day, Everyone here can recite the Ten Commandments, right, and we never break any of them not for a moment day in or day out, not in our actions or in our hearts.

No coveting, (I wish I had a Ferrari like the one God wants Dave to have) we always keep the Sabbath holy, certainly no idolatry, like living for money or things instead of God.

What about:

Jesus was asked

[Matthew 22:36-39 ESV]

36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

38 This is the great and first commandment.

39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

or

[Galatians 5:14 ESV]

14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Because we all love or neighbor as ourselves every moment of every day, on the freeway on the surface streets, standing in the checkout line at a store, when a telemarketer calls at DMV.

We all sin everyday but instead of God's wrath, that we deserve, we get salvation through Jesus Christ

[Romans 5:19-21 ESV]

19 For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

20 Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

21 so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Remember where we started today

[1Thesalonians 5:9-10 ESV]

9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

God did not destine us for wrath, he could of, God is sovereign, he can do whatever he wants – but to obtain salvation, meaning we have the opportunity.

[1Corinthians 10:13 ESV]

13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

The way of escape, not only of temptation but from death its self.

[Romans 6:23 ESV]

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The free gift of God, what we call Grace

[Romans 10:9 ESV]

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Saved from Death, you may lose this earthly body for a time (that is what is meant by asleep) you will have eternal life through Jesus

[John 3:16 ESV]

16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

[John 3:36 ESV] 36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

That wrath, the lake of fire wrath, there is only one way to have that wrath directed at you:

[Mark 3:28-29 ESV]

28 "Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter,

29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin" —

One rule (why does that sound so familiar)

Believe in Jesus as the son of God, and that he died for your sins and was resurrected, or incur the wrath of God

Added Bonus

Verse 11

[1Th 5:11 ESV]

11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

God encourages us in so many ways

The breath of life in our lungs, the promise of a new day, the protection from evil, but most of all his Grace – the free gift that covers our sins

We all want these things from God, shouldn't we support and encourage each other, just as Paul did by writing this verse to the church

Pray Call Greg up – Lay hands