

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT YOU

PART 4: GOD'S WRATH

INTRODUCTION

The most essential part of who you are is what you think about God. Your perceptions affect your relationships. Your perceptions about God...what you think about God...dictate the level of trust and intimacy you experience with God. This series will help clarify your perception of God.

KEY QUOTE

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."

--A.W. Tozer, The Knowledge of the Holy

KEY SCRIPTURE

Lamentations 3:33

Luke 19:10

Isaiah 28:21

Colossians 2:13-14

Jeremiah 32:41

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever, or do you know somebody who has ever gotten angry with God when faced with pain and suffering? What was the result?
2. Why do you think people get angry with God when bad things happen?
3. Pastor Will taught that the wrath of God (the fact that he will judge sin and evil) is an expression of his love...that he will pour out judgement against evil and sin because it will ultimately destroy what he loves the most, his children. Do you agree or disagree with the idea that God's wrath is an expression of his love? Why?
4. Read Lamentations 3:33 and Isaiah 28:21. God's heart is not to bring affliction. While God is sovereign over every circumstance, the pain and suffering that those circumstances bring do not come from his heart. And Isaiah, the prophet, describes the exile of the Israelites as God's "strange" work...He is sending them what they deserve, but His deepest heart is their merciful restoration. He wants his people to return to a right relationship with Him, but sometimes it takes his wrath to make that happen. How should this truth shape the way you respond to circumstances that bring pain and suffering?
5. Jesus teaches us that it's God's heart that the lost be found. We must make the decision to follow Jesus daily in order to be where God wants us to be...in a right relationship with him. What will you do daily to allow God to restore you back to him?
6. How does this teaching change the way you think about and respond to God's wrath? How will you respond to pain and suffering differently?

MOVING FORWARD

This week read the three parables in Luke 15. What do you see there about God's heart for bringing the lost back to him? Are you lost? If so, God wants to bring you back to him. [Click here](#) for more on God's heart to bring you back to him.