

## The Book of Romans, Lesson 9, Romans 1:16-18, "The Wrath of God"

- ✚ There are two sides to eternity, and you and I have this life only to call it for ourselves, if we fail to call it, we will lose by default. One side is the righteousness of God that only comes from believing the gospel according to what the bible says in Romans 1:16-17. The other side is the wrath of God for those who refuse to accept Jesus as their Savior, Romans 1:18. Two sides only to choose from "if I do not believe Jesus, I shall not see life.", John 3:36. Everyone is going to have Jesus: either you will have Him as your Savior or you will have Him as your judge. Jesus rose again proving these two critically important things: One, that He is the Savior. Two, that He will judge all those who reject Him: Acts 17:31.
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### **We are most familiar with Jesus as Savior and are far less familiar with Him as Judge.**

- ✓ Redeemer and Savior are His favorite titles, and who He wants to be for all people, but if they fail to call on Him for this He has another title. Jesus, the executor of God's wrath, this is not a title that brings warmth to our hearts! A beautiful picture of this is the story of Ruth and Boaz where Boaz is her redeemer by the laws of the Old Testament. But the kinsman-redeemer had two jobs in the legal system of Old Testament, and the other job was to act as an avenger of blood. There were no police in those days, no sheriff or law enforcement on the public's payroll. Those jobs, instead, were carried out by the next of kin. If you broke the law, and especially, if you killed someone, the person who would hunt you down to make you pay for your crime was the kinsman redeemer. Jesus is our Kinsman: He became a human, and our Redeemer: He laid His life down and took our place to redeem us back to God. Jesus has a second job that goes with this role: He is the Avenger of blood.
- ✓ Revelation begins with the announcement of His coming, Revelation 1:7, and then it goes on to describe His appearing further in Revelation 6:12-17, everyone is scared and running, but from what? A Lamb? Who's afraid of a Lamb? We get more insight later as it goes on to describe how He will look on that day: Revelation 19:11-16. This isn't exactly the Jesus that we saw depicted in flannel graph in our children's Sunday School class. This is the other job that Jesus has: Judge. Notice: robes dipped in blood but it's not His blood. Adding even more to this imagery, we have the description of Him in Isaiah 63:1-6. The Bible is quite clear on how much blood will be spilled on that day: Revelation 14:20.

**This is not, maybe, what we think of when we think of Jesus, but this is the full orbbed view of who is and will be. He will either be your advocate: Hebrews 7:23, completely saving you from your sins or He will be your adversary: Hebrews 10:31, completely judging you according to your sins. Eternity is for us to call it as we want it fall.**

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