

Main Idea: Those who endure in faith will stand as victors over the enemy for the just wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.

1. God is incomparable. "You alone are holy."

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. (Isaiah 55:8 ESV)

² *"Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy...⁴ Do not turn to idols or make for yourselves any gods of cast metal: I am the LORD your God...¹⁸ you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD. (Leviticus 19:2, 4, 18b)*

"God is God and distinguished (set apart) from other beings, and exalted over them, chiefly by his divine beauty... the holiness of God consists in his love, especially in the perfect and intimate union and love there is between the Father and the Son." Jonathan Edwards

"The holiness of the triune God is the perfection, beauty, and absolute purity of the love there is between the Father and the Son... No wonder the two greatest commands are 'Love the Lord your God' and 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' For that is being like this God—sharing the love the Father and the Son have for each other, and then, like them, overflowing with that love to the world." Michael Reeves, *Delighting in the Trinity*

Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; (Psalm 96:9a ESV)

When we worship idols—and we all do—we demonstrate our unholiness. We give to other things that which rightly belongs to Christ and inevitably sin against our neighbors. The result? We fail to love God and to love others. We fail to be holy, and when confronted with the holiness of God, we, like Isaiah, recognize our peril.

"Woe is me! For I am lost; (Isaiah 6:5a ESV)

Good News: The holiness that sets God apart from us is the same holiness that moves him toward us in love.

²³ *And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes.²⁴ I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. (Ezekiel 36:23-24 ESV)*

¹ *When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you,² since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him...¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. (John 17:1-2, 19 ESV, cf. John 3:16)*

2. God is just. "Just and true are your ways"

The justice of God and the love of God are not uneasy neighbors. His justice demonstrates his love—both for Christ and those united with Christ through faith. (cf. Colossians 3:3)

"The wrath of the triune God is exactly the opposite of a character blip or a nasty side in him. It is the proof of the sincerity of his love, that he truly cares. His love is not mild-mannered and limp; it is livid, potent, and committed. And therein lies our hope: through his wrath the living God shows that he is truly loving, and through his wrath he will destroy all devilry that we might enjoy him in a purified world, the home of righteousness." – Michael Reeves

Our Triune God

There is one God, that is one divine essence/nature/being.
There are three co-equal, co-eternal persons of the Godhead.
The Father is God.
The Son is God.
The Spirit is God.
The Father is not the Son.
The Son is not Spirit.
The Spirit is not the Father.

3. God's final judgment will bring about the fullness of his plan on earth, and we will worship him for it. "All nations will come and worship you"

Bowl 1: Boils – The mark that promised security and prosperity brings pain and agony.

Bowl 2: On the Sea – The origin of the beast destroyed and the destruction of global commerce.

Bowl 3: Rivers to Blood – Retribution handed to the persecutors of God's people.

Bowl 4: On the Sun – The most stable and life-giving aspect of our Solar System turns against the earth-dwellers.

Bowl 5: Darkness – A preview of Hell where the spiritual reality of Babylon is felt physically.

Bowl 6: Frogs – A final deception, a foolish battle, and the Great Day of God.

The drying of the Euphrates, which might seem like an opportunity for a strengthened global alliance against Christ and his people, is a signal of the fall of the kingdom of the Beast. As the "drying" of the Euphrates was a precursor to Cyrus' conquering of Babylon, so too will the drying of the Euphrates precursor Christ's destruction of "Babylon the Great."

"Frogs seemed harmless but they destroyed the Egyptians (cf. Psalm 78:45) ... The nations are deceived to think that they are gathering to exterminate the saints, but they are gathered together ultimately by God in order to meet their own judgment at the hands of Jesus." G.K. Beale

Megiddo forms a type in the Scriptures of the forces of evil arrayed against God and his people. In these final days, the forces that gather in the shadow of Mount Carmel and ultimately surround Jerusalem, will engage in part one of the final showdown—and like Elijah with the prophets of Baal, it will not even be close.

Bowl 7: Earthquake and Hail – The Final Day of the Lord // Seal 6-7 // Trumpet 7

