## The Doctrines of Grace Doctrine 2- The Radical Ruination of Man Part B/Lesson 4 of 4 Man after the Fall- God's Judgment of Sin and Eternal Damnation

Psalms 7:11 God is a righteous judge, And a God who has indignation every day.

Isaiah 63:10 But they rebelled And grieved His Holy Spirit; Therefore He turned Himself to become their enemy, He fought against them.

Many people today have fabricated a "god" in their own minds who is pure love, and a "god" who has no inclination toward wrath, judgment, or damnation. That "god" doesn't exist. The Bible reveals that God is indeed Love- but the God of Scripture is not *only* Love. He is also Holy, Just, and Righteous. And it is God's inherent Justness and Righteousness that *demands* that He judge all sin. And the way that God judges sin is by judging sinners.

#### Romans 1:18

# For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness

As we have studied- God originally made Man "in His Image and in His Likeness," and said that His Creation of Man was "very good" (Genesis 1:31). At that time- Man had unrestricted fellowship with God, and God's perspective toward Man was one of Joy, Satisfaction, Favor, and Peace.

But when Adam willfully rebelled against God and sinned- Man entered into a "fallen" state of being which in turn ruined that Divine Relationship.

#### Ecclesiastes 7:29

# "Behold, I have found only this, that God made men upright, but they have sought out many devices."

And with the ruination of Man through his sin- not only was Man's relationship with God destroyed- but God's perspective of Man was also changed:

- ✓ Joy turned to Grief
- ✓ Satisfaction turned to Anger
- ✓ Favor turned to Hatred
- ✓ Peace turned to Enmity

#### **Divine Grief**

Genesis 6:6 The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

Psalms 78:40 How often they rebelled against Him in the wilderness And grieved Him in the desert!

Isaiah 43:24

"You have bought Me not sweet cane with money, Nor have you filled Me with the fat of your sacrifices; Rather you have burdened Me with your sins, You have wearied Me with your iniquities.

Ezekiel 6:9-10

"Then those of you who escape will remember Me among the nations to which they will be carried captive, how I have been hurt by their adulterous hearts which turned away from Me, and by their eyes which played the harlot after their idols; and they will loathe themselves in their own sight for the evils which they have committed, for all their abominations.

Amos 2:10-13
<sup>10</sup> "It was I who brought you up from the land of Egypt,
And I led you in the wilderness forty years
That you might take possession of the land of the Amorite.
<sup>11</sup> "Then I raised up some of your sons to be prophets
And some of your young men to be Nazirites.
Is this not so, O sons of Israel?" declares the LORD.
<sup>12</sup> "But you made the Nazirites drink wine,
And you commanded the prophets saying, 'You shall not prophesy!'
<sup>13</sup> "Behold, I am weighted down beneath you
As a wagon is weighted down when filled with sheaves.

#### Ephesians 4:30-31

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

We have studied that God is absolutely Sovereign. Yet these verses seem to show us a side of God that would contradict that. Is it possible that an all-powerful God would experience grief over our sin? The Bible reveals this is so. So as we struggle to understand this- we must understand that the "grief" that God experiences (like all of His "Emotions") is not like ours.

#### Isaiah 55:8&9

## <sup>8</sup> "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. <sup>9</sup> "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.

All of our emotions are fallen- they are sinful and ruined by the Fall. Our human emotions are what best illustrates our humanity- frail, inconsistent, weak, and ungodly. But all of God's "Emotions" are Pure, Holy, Righteous, and Glorious, and God's Emotions are what best illustrates His Divinity. So for example- while our "jealousy" is evil and destructive- God's "Jealousy" is Right and True. So it is with all of God's Attributes and Characteristics. They may carry the same label as ours- but God's Qualities are undefiled while ours are patently wicked.

So when "Divine Grief" is mentioned- we must understand that God's Grief is *not* the same human grief that we experience or even for the same reason- but God's Grief is Heavenly- not earthly. We must try to grasp the fact that God is not apathetic toward Man- God is not stoic and unconcerned by Man's rebellion toward Him. God responds to our sin.

So we must try to balance the fact that while it is true that God is "Self-Determining", meaning that His Disposition and Actions are not simply responses to what others do, God does manifest "Love," "Hate," and "Grief" in all three Persons of His Essence.

In *every* case where the Scriptures reveal God's Divine Grief- it is *always* associated with Man's sin. The Bible teaches that God does indeed *grieve* over the rebellion and wickedness of His Creatures. And based on what we also know to be true about God's Own Personal Character and Nature – we can conclude then that this "Divine Grief" is the result of how sin offends God's Pristine Purity, and of how destructive that sin is to God's other creations- both animate and inanimate.

So the primary reason why sin is wrong- is because it brings God no Glory due to the offensive quality that sin is to God's Personal Holiness. In other wordswhile it is true that sin hurts us and those around us- that is *not* the primary reason why sin is wrong. Sin is wrong because sin offends God, and because sin robs God of the Glory that He Alone is entitled to receive.

#### **Divine Grief Becomes Divine Wrath**

However- unlike weak Man- God doesn't simply "fret" over sin. The Scriptures reveal that God's Divine Grief transforms into Divine Justice or Divine Wrath against that sin when Man's blatant wickedness and depravity is confronted with God's Holiness and Love. There are three Hebrew words that were used throughout the Old Testament to describe God's Wrath:

Qetsep	Wrath; Anger; Indignation
Hema	Wrath; Anger; Disgust; Fury; Rage; Heat; Poison
Aph	Nose; Nostril

Each of these Hebrew words are designed to give us different view of God's Wrath as being everything from Anger and Indignation to Disgust and Rage to the flaring of the nostrils in great Displeasure. The two Greek words used in the New Testament (*orge* and *thumos*) mean: wrath; *anger; indignation; passion; and rage*.

A common misconception about God's Wrath is that God is an angry and vengeful God in the Old Testament while in the New- He is loving and kind. Nothing could be further from the truth. All of God's Qualities are eternal- so from eternity past to eternity future- God has always been both Love and Just, both Kind and Righteous.

And we must also understand that God does not value one Divine Quality above the other. In other words- while wrath is always seen as being negative in Man- God's Wrath is as Holy as His Love, and God's Wrath brings God just as much Glory as does His Mercy. So while we may want to dwell only on God's Love- God desires that His Love and His Justice are perfectly balanced at all times. There is never a moment when God is more Love than He is Just, and there is never a time when God is more Just than He is Love. Justice and Love are two sides of the very same part of God's Character and Nature, and are both used by God to bring Himself Glory.

We must also understand that- unlike Man- God's Wrath is not an emotional outburst. God's Wrath is not an uncontrollable explosion of irrationality or selfishness. God's Wrath is a very direct, deliberate, measured, and correct part of His Divine Government. And in the manifestation of God's Wrath- even when it is invisible to us- Mercy and Love flow out in equal measure.

It is God's Own Holy Character and Nature that *requires* His Act toward sin. When we say that God is Love- part of what we mean is that God infinitely loves all that is "Good". And so when we say that God is Just- we mean that God is infinitely offended by all that is "Evil"- thus God hates evil. So the best way to define what it looks like to love what is Good is for us to know what it looks like to hate evil.

#### Psalms 97:10a

Hate evil, you who love the LORD...

Proverbs 8:13 "The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverted mouth, I hate. Amos 5:15 Hate evil, love good, And establish justice in the gate! Perhaps the LORD God of hosts May be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

When Man is the object of God's Wrath- it is only because he has willfully (and repeatedly) chosen to commit high treason against God's Sovereignty, and has eagerly volunteered to oppose God's Will, and thus Man imminently *deserves* the promised manifestation of God's Justness.

#### Exodus 34:6&7

6 Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; <sup>7</sup> who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave *the guilty* unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations."

Nahum 1:2-10  $^{2}$  A jealous and avenging God is the LORD; The LORD is avenging and wrathful. The LORD takes vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies. <sup>3</sup> The LORD is slow to anger and great in power, And the LORD will by no means leave the guilty unpunished. In whirlwind and storm is His way. And clouds are the dust beneath His feet. <sup>4</sup> He rebukes the sea and makes it dry; He dries up all the rivers. **Bashan and Carmel wither:** The blossoms of Lebanon wither. <sup>5</sup> Mountains quake because of Him And the hills dissolve; Indeed the earth is upheaved by His presence, The world and all the inhabitants in it. <sup>6</sup> Who can stand before His indignation? Who can endure the burning of His anger? His wrath is poured out like fire And the rocks are broken up by Him. 7 The LORD is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble, And He knows those who take refuge in Him. <sup>8</sup> But with an overflowing flood He will make a complete end of its site, And will pursue His enemies into darkness.

<sup>9</sup> Whatever you devise against the LORD, He will make a complete end of it. Distress will not rise up twice.
<sup>10</sup> Like tangled thorns, And like those who are drunken with their drink, They are consumed As stubble completely withered.

#### God's Judgment Against the Sinner

There are five main manifestations of God's Judgment against the sinner:

- 1. He is Separated From God
- 2. He is Given Over to Sin
- 3. He is Given Over to Miseries
- 4. He is Subject to Death
- 5. Sinners Spend Eternity in Hell

Let's examine each one.

#### 1. The Sinner is Separated From God

#### Habakkuk 1:13

Your eyes are too pure to approve evil, And You can not look on wickedness with favor. Why do You look with favor On those who deal treacherously? Why are You silent when the wicked swallow up Those more righteous than they?

Proverbs 15:29 The LORD is far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous.

Isaiah 59:1&2 1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not so short That it cannot save; Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. <sup>2</sup> But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden *His* face from you so that He does not hear.

Ephesians 2:11&12 11 Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "Uncircumcision" by the so-called "Circumcision," *which is* performed in the flesh by human hands —

<sup>12</sup> *remember* that you were at that time <u>separate from Christ</u>, <u>excluded from the</u> <u>commonwealth of Israel</u>, and <u>strangers to the covenants of promise</u>, <u>having no hope</u> and <u>without God</u> in the world.

#### 2. Sinners are Given Over to Sin

Romans 1:18-32

<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven <u>against all ungodliness and</u> <u>unrighteousness</u> of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

 $1^{9}$  because that which is known about God is evident within them; <u>for God made it evident</u> to them.

<sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, <u>have been clearly seen</u>, <u>being understood</u> through what has been made, <u>so that they are without excuse</u>.

<sup>21</sup> For <u>even though they knew God</u>, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

<sup>22</sup> Professing to be wise, they became fools,

 $^{23}$  and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore <u>God gave them over</u> in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.

<sup>25</sup> For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

 $^{26}$  For this reason <u>God gave them over</u> to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,

 $2^{7}$  and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

<sup>28</sup> And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, <u>God gave them over</u> to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,

<sup>29</sup> being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; *they are* gossips,

 $^{30}$  slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;

 $^{32}$  and although <u>they know the ordinance of God</u>, that those who practice such things are <u>worthy of death</u>, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

#### 3. Sinners Are Given Over to Miseries

Genesis 3:16-19 <sup>16</sup> To the woman He said. "I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth. In pain you will bring forth children; Yet your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you." <sup>17</sup> Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it All the days of your life. 18 "Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; And you will eat the plants of the field; <sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face You will eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return."

The Radical Ruination of Man

Job 5:7 For man is born for trouble, As sparks fly upward.

Job 7:1-3 1 "Is not man forced to labor on earth, And *are not* his days like the days of a hired man? <sup>2</sup> "As a slave who pants for the shade, And as a hired man who eagerly waits for his wages, <sup>3</sup> So am I allotted months of vanity, And nights of trouble are appointed me.

Psalms 89:47 Remember what my span of life is; For what vanity You have created all the sons of men!

Ecclesiastes 2:22&23

22 For what does a man get in all his labor and in his striving with which he labors under the sun?

 $^{23}$  Because all his days his task is painful and grievous; even at night his mind does not rest. This too is vanity.

#### 4. Sinners are Subject to Death

The irrefutable proof of the Curse of the Fall is that now- all of Mankind is subject to physical death. The Bible declares that Man dies because he is a sinner-a sinner whose Sin has been *inherited* through Original Sin, and a sinner because he himself has engaged in repeated willful acts of wickedness. And the result of being a sinner is that his flesh has been forever cursed by God.

#### The Mystery of Death

Even though death is common and all of Humanity will experience it- death remains a great mystery to us. And although there are many very sincere accounts of "out of body" or "near death" experiences in print that describe death, and even the "after life" in great detail- we must be careful that we formulate what we believe and what we teach about Death from inspired Scripture, and not from accounts that cannot be verified.

The Bible teaches two great Truths about Death:

- A. Death is *not* the end of human existence
- B. At Death- the fleshly body of Man returns to the ground while the spirit of Man returns to God

Human Life is described in the Bible as much more than simply a lump of protoplasm comprised primarily of water with a few inert ingredients thrown in. The Bible describes Human Life as a fleshly body with an eternal spirit living within it and thus Death would be a fleshly body where that spirit has departed. No matter how advanced our science, technology, or medicine has become- the fleshly body of Man cannot live absent his spirit.

#### **James 2:26**

For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.

#### Psalms 146:4

His spirit departs, he returns to the earth; In that very day his thoughts perish.

Every single tombstone marker throughout the world, every urn, every cemetery, and every burial place is an unarguable testimony to the fact that what God told Adam in the Garden was true:

#### Genesis 2:17

# but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.''

When pondering this Truth however- we must take heed that we do not wrongly conclude that those who died early were greater sinners than those who lived full lives. The Bible does not teach that. What the Bible *does* teach is that every single human being on earth who has ever, or will ever, live is part of a sinful and fallen race, and physical Death is simply one manifestation of God's Righteous Judgment against us all.

#### Death Comes by God's Sovereign Decree

Not only does the Bible teach that Death comes to us all because of sin- either the imputed Sin of Adam or our own personal sins- but the Bible also teaches that Death comes to each individual at God's Sovereign Decree. We die at God's "appointed time" and not one minute sooner or later.

Many in the modern Church avoid this issue altogether or teach a strange invented doctrine that says that Death is simply a random event that occurs at some undetermined point in the future as the natural conclusion to general sin. But the Bible does not teach that.

The Scriptures clearly teach that not only has God Sovereignly planned- in advance- the very moment of our Death, but also the manner by which Death will come to us. The Scriptures reveal that God Alone is both the Giver and the Taker of all Life.

#### Daniel 5:23

but you have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of His house before you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines have been drinking wine from them; and you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which do not see, hear or understand. But the God <u>in whose hand are your life-breath and all your ways</u>, you have not glorified.

Deuteronomy 32:39 See now that I, I am He, And there is no god besides Me; It is I who put to death and give life. I have wounded and it is I who heal, And there is no one who can deliver from My hand.

1Samuel 2:6-10 <sup>6</sup> "The LORD kills and makes alive; He brings down to Sheol and raises up. <sup>7</sup> "The LORD makes poor and rich; He brings low, He also exalts. <sup>8</sup> "He raises the poor from the dust, He lifts the needy from the ash heap To make them sit with nobles, And inherit a seat of honor; For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, And He set the world on them.
<sup>9</sup> "He keeps the feet of His godly ones, But the wicked ones are silenced in darkness; For not by might shall a man prevail.
<sup>10</sup> "Those who contend with the LORD will be shattered; Against them He will thunder in the heavens, The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; And He will give strength to His king, And will exalt the <sup>1</sup> horn of His anointed."

Job 14:5 "Since his days are determined, The number of his months is with You; And his limits You have set so that he cannot pass.

Ecclesiastes 3:1&2a 1 There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven —

<sup>2</sup> A time to give birth and a time to die...

Hebrews 9:27-28 And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment,

Luke 12:19&20 19 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years *to come*; take your ease, eat, drink *and* be merry."'

**20** "But God said to him, 'You fool! This *very* night your soul is required of you; and *now* who will own what you have prepared?'

#### 5. Sinners Spend Eternity in Hell

We have seen that the Bible teaches that all men die. But the *ultimate* Judgment on Sinners is also the ultimate Death- Eternal Death- which is what the Christian Church means when it teaches about Hell. One of the most frightening Truths of Scripture is that the consequences of sin do not end at the moment of physical death- but that there is an Eternal Damnation awaiting every sinner by this Good and Loving God- Who vindicates His Justice by and through Hell.

And we must be careful about this Truth. Because if- out of our own dislike or fear of the inescapable Truth of Hell- we avoid it or ignore it or (worse yet) try to deny it- we also do great damage to the equal but opposite Truth of Heaven. You cannot reject one Truth of Scripture without also rejecting another Truth because all Biblical Truths are connected. You cannot reject God's Wrath without also rejecting God's Love, and you cannot reject Eternal Damnation without rejecting eternal Glory.

In the New Testament- there are two words that describe Hell:

- ✓ Hades
- ✓ Gehenna

**Hades** is used ten times in the New Testament to describe the abode of the dead and a place where the wicked are tormented.

**Gehenna** is used twelve times in the New Testament, and is a Greek transliteration of the Aramaic word *Gehinnam*, which refers to the Valley of Hinnom (Joshua 15:8) located to the south of Jerusalem, and is called today "Wadi er-Rababi".

Under the reign of the wicked kings, Ahaz and Mannasseh- Gehinnam was a place where parents offered their children as sacrifices to the Ammonite god, Molech (Jeremiah 32:35; 2Kings 16:3; 21:6).

**2Kings 23:10-14** tells us that during the reign of Josiah- child sacrifice was ended and the Valley of Hinnom was destroyed. It eventually became a dump for garbage, the bodies of executed criminals, and animals. As time when on- the smoke of the burning was continuous and the dump was infested with maggots, flies. and worms.

As Jesus walked the earth- the word **Gehenna** was used to describe the place of eternal punishment and torment of the wicked.

Throughout the centuries there have been two main understandings of these two words by the Christian Church:

A. Hades and Gehenna are two different words describing the same place

B. Hades is temporary while Gehenna is permanent

In the first view- **Hades** and **Gehenna** are simply two different words that refer to the same place of torment where the wicked suffer in a disembodied state before the Resurrection and Final Judgment. In the second view however- the wicked dead are *temporarily* held in **Hades** until the Resurrection and Final Judgment. At that point- they are re-united with a new, immortal body and assigned to an eternity in **Gehenna**.

Many scholars see the *second* view as being the most Biblical because Scripture declares that at some point- those in Hades will be removed and will be cast into **Gehenna** (along with **Hades** itself) to spend all of eternity.

#### The Revelation 20:11-15

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.

12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds.

 $^{14}$  Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

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

The Bible describes Hell in three main ways:

- 1. Those in Hell are Forever Excluded from the Favorable Presence of God
- 2. Those in Hell Suffer Unimaginably
- 3. There is Unending Punishment in Hell

#### 2Thessalonians 1:9&10

9 These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed — for our testimony to you was believed.

#### The Revelation 14:9-11

<sup>9</sup> Then another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand,

10 he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

11 "And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Isaiah 30:33 For Topheth has long been ready, Indeed, it has been prepared for the king. He has made it deep and large, A pyre of fire with plenty of wood; The breath of the LORD, like a torrent of brimstone, sets it afire.

The Revelation 20:10

And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

#### **The Revelation 21:8**

# But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part *will be* in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

What is amazing is that while many people think that since Jesus is the Personification of God's Love- He would never even talk about Hell- much less actually send anyone there- the facts are that Jesus talked about Hell more than anyone else. The Scriptures reveal that Jesus believed in Hell and taught it frequently.

#### Hades: Matthew 11:23; 16:18; Luke 10:15; and 16:23

#### Gehenna: Matthew 5:22, 29-30; 10:28; 18:9; 23:15, 33; Mark 9:43, 47; and Luke 12:5

Other times Jesus taught about Eternal Damnation include:

## Matthew 3:10-12; 7:19-23; 8:11&12; 10:28; 11:20- 24; 13:42; 22:13; 18:8&9; 22:13; 23:14; 25:30, 41-46 Mark 9:43- 48 Luke 12:5, 42-48; 13:24-27; 16:19-31

#### The Frightening Reality and the Great Hope

We have examined two Doctrines thus far in our Study- God and Man. We have studied that God is absolutely Sovereign, and that Man is radically ruined as a result of The Fall. Both of these two Doctrines present us with the frightening reality of an invincible God, and our sinful condition before this God. This leaves us in a terrible condition- realizing that we are "all evil- all the time," and yet having to stand before this all Righteous God to give an account of our thoughts and deeds under the Penalty of Eternal Damnation.

So now we understand the real Problem:

#### God is holy and we are not

How are inherently sinful and fallen human beings going to be able to escape God's Judgment on their lives and enter into Heaven forever? We have already seen that simply "trying to be nice" is not enough- the one true living God of the Bible demands and expects perfect and continuous Righteousness as a requirement to enter into Heaven, and yet because we are fallen- none of us are able to accomplish this. So what are we to do? Are we doomed? Thankfully we can say along with the Apostle Paul:

#### Romans 7:25a Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! ...

The next four Doctrines are going to teach us about God's marvelous Grace in eternally and mercifully rescuing lost, fallen, and unworthy sinners through the Life and Death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, and as these next four Doctrines unfold before you- your admiration and awe of God will soar; your wonder at Mercy will flourish and the magnificence of God's Sovereign Grace will be evident before your eyes, and you will understand why these Truths are collectively called, "The Doctrines of Grace".

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.

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### **Recap of Lesson 4**

1. Explain what is meant by the term, "Divine Grief".

2. Explain the correlation between our human emotions and God's. \_\_\_\_\_

3. At what point does Divine Grief become Divine Wrath? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Does the New Testament describe a different God than the Old? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Was God Merciful and Loving in the Old Testament?

6. Is God revealed to be a God of Wrath and Damnation in the New Testament?

7. How does God reconcile that He is both Just and Loving? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Does God *respond* to our acts of wickedness with His Wrath or is Wrath an Act required by His Nature?

9. What are some definitions of the three Hebrew words that have been translated into English as "Wrath"?

10. What is the best way to define what it looks like to "love what is Good?" \_\_\_\_\_

11. When does Man become the object of God's Wrath? \_\_\_\_\_

12. What are the five ways in which God's Judgment is manifested against the sinner?

13. What two great Truths about Death does the Bible teach?

14. What is meant by the phrase, "Death Comes by God's Sovereign Decree"?

15. What two Hebrew words describe Hell? \_\_\_\_\_

16. What is probably the difference between them?

17. In what three ways does the Bible describe Hell?

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18. What has the first two Doctrines in this Study taught you that you did not know before you began? \_\_\_\_\_