

W O R D A T W O R K

Building a Wall Against Evil III

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

Scripture: Ezekiel 13:1-5, Malachi 3:1-5

Ezekiel 13 assigns prophets the task of building a boundary wall against evil through intercession for mercy. Sin in the nation qualifies as a breach or gap in the covenantal wall of protection. Building that wall really becomes difficult when leaders call good evil and evil good. Standing in the gap is not enough when this boundary is crossed. Calling good evil and evil good guarantees a manifestation of God's Judicial Hand. Approving homosexual marriage brings this issue to the forefront! Ezekiel 13:1-5 characterizes such a spiritual shift in a nation. It highlights the condition of the church when there are gaps in the spiritual boundary wall that are created because of unrepentant sin. Certain sin is so God-rejecting at its core as to invite God's intervention or visitation. It is one thing to be caught in the deception of homosexuality but quite another to promote legalizing homosexual marriage. I certainly never thought I would see the emergence of radicalized people classified by Romans 1 as God-haters, but I was wrong. Passing homosexual marriage into law allows the state to rule any objecting church discriminatory potentially tax their property and penalize their pastor. God-hating is attracting high-profile givers like the owner of Amazon.com, who gave 2.5 million to advance homosexual marriage in Washington state. Every Christian who loves God, obeys God and He discriminates against sin by judging it. Sin will ultimately destroy a nation. The unique thing about Ezekiel 13 is that it marks the transition of iniquity rising to a place in the land where one's biggest problem shifts from being the devil to being the judgment of God. The question now becomes, can we stand when God visits? Repentance could avert the disaster. But the real question is, where is the wall that will save us from God? That is the real issue that comes into view in Ezekiel 13. We can look at a nation like America and say, "Where is the church that is standing in the gap, so that the breaches are closed?" Is the church standing in the gap so the Judicial Hand of God is stayed? As it stands now, it is clear the church needs time to bring people into true repentance! Will the church rise to this responsibility?

THURSDAY, MAY 2

Scripture: Malachi 3:1-5

If God's Judicial Hand is not stayed by believers then devastating judgments will hit the land. If we look back a mere ten years, we can see devastating judgments that have already hit our land. 911, Hurricane Katrina, tornadoes in Joplin, MO, and the list goes on. When we look at the church across our nation, do we see people being prepared to stand in the gap? Or do we see feel-good gospel on Sundays? Do Sunday morning feel-good messages teach what it takes to stand in the face of rage and hatred for all those who stand for righteousness? The cultural tide is turning against the church! The nation can still be saved but only by radical surgery for the churches. A Malachi 3:1-5 visitation would transform the church for the job of saving the nation. Malachi 3:1-5 says, "*Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,*" Says the Lord of hosts. *But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of*

Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the Lord An offering in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem Will be pleasant to the Lord, As in the days of old, As in former years. And I will come near you for judgment; I will be a swift witness Against sorcerers, Against adulterers, Against perjurers, Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, And against those who turn away an alien— Because they do not fear Me,” Says the Lord of hosts.” America has always welcomed aliens and deserves the full measure of God's blessing for that obedience! The covenantal promise is God will be a swift witness against the enemy. What does that look like? It looks like Ananias and Sapphira. It looks like Herod. It looks like Elymas.

FRIDAY, MAY 3

Scripture: Psalm 106:37-42

Psalm 106:37-42 identifies probably the biggest breach or gap in America today. It says, *“They even sacrificed their sons And their daughters to demons, And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and daughters, Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with blood. Thus they were defiled by their own works, And played the harlot by their own deeds. Therefore the wrath of the Lord was kindled against His people, So that He abhorred His own inheritance. And He gave them into the hand of the Gentiles, And those who hated them ruled over them. Their enemies also oppressed them, And they were brought into subjection under their hand.”* In a number of nations, Christ-hating people rule. Their rule is oppressive! The fruit of abortion and the shedding of innocent blood can be seen by looking at the trends we see in the nation today. At the end of World War II, America was the chief creditor nation and now we have become the chief debtor nation in the whole earth. It is obvious that the wrath of the Lord has been kindled against the nation. God abhors His own inheritance and there is a giant gap or breach allowing adversity to increase. The church today, entertains people more than it prepares them. For years we have seen the gap grow bigger and bigger. And the tragedy is, such gaps allow the enemy unwarranted access to cause irreparable damage. America was breached and attacked on 9/11. America went to war but what did that war accomplish? There is a breach and we are progressively being given into the hand of our enemies. The fruit of allowing abortion to continue in any nation is verse 41, *“And He gave them into the hand of the Gentiles, And those who hated them ruled over them.”* The church has not built people into those who understand what it takes to stand in the gap. Instead we have seen the church entertain people on Sunday mornings. Our nation now flirts with disaster in yielding to homosexual marriage! What great judgment lies behind that door? What if the church were to get a Malachi 3:1-5 visitation? America has opened its doors to the alien citizens like no other nation. What if a move of the Spirit came to Spanish-speakers? Hispanics are a majority in California. Caucasians are now minorities in their home state. A move of the Spirit in Southern California would create a political earthquake in America! I see the day coming when our Spanish-speaking believers will mightily arise!

SATURDAY, MAY 4

Scripture: Psalm 106:19-23

In verses 19-23, idolatry created a breach. The people have opened the door to judgment. Verses 19-23 states, *“They made a calf in Horeb, And worshiped the molded image. Thus they changed their glory Into the image of an ox that eats grass. They forgot God their Savior, Who had done great things in Egypt, Wondrous works in the land of Ham, Awesome things by the Red Sea. Therefore He said that He would destroy them, Had not Moses His chosen one stood before Him in the breach, To turn away His wrath, lest He destroy them.”* God was ready to destroy Israel. This only happened four times. But each time, the same man who understood God's righteous standard, stepped up into the gap. We are told that because Moses stood in the breach or the gap, in verse 23, he turned away God's wrath. Otherwise, the nation would have been destroyed. What a powerful verse! It shows us that one individual can step into the gap and make a difference. Are we willing to step into the gap for our state, for our city, for our nation? If we learn to walk with the Judicial Christ we can step into the gap and turn God's wrath, so a nation or region can be saved!

SUNDAY, MAY 5

Scripture: Exodus 32:7-10

Exodus 32:7-10 says, *“And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made themselves a molded calf, and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!’” And the LORD said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people! Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation.’”* When God saw the idol that His people had built, He stated in verse 10, *“Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation.”* On one level, that has to be quite an honor. “Moses, get out of the way, I will destroy all of them and I will make of you a great nation!” That meant Moses had better get busy, because he needed to have a ton of kids! But Moses said, “Wait a minute. Let’s rethink this deal.” And he began to intercede, to stand in the gap. He was so successful, that God relented. This is great news! It shows us it is possible to step into a breach. The breach is an open violation of biblical morality. Any major violation of biblical morality that is revealed in the Ten Commandments creates a breach. And a breach means that satan is no longer our biggest problem, God is. God is obligated to judge repeated violations of biblical morality. When a cup of iniquity is full, even the land will vomit out the inhabitants. The earth was created to only stand so much iniquity. When fullness of iniquity rises in the earth, the creation cries against the people for relief. It cries out for the destruction of the inhabitants. Shedding innocent blood will do that. Sexual sin will do that. Moses stood in the gap and turned God’s wrath away.

MONDAY, MAY 6

Scripture: Exodus 32:25-28

When Moses got down from the mountain, he found the people had not only built an idol, but they were dramatically descending into sexual sin. He asked for volunteers that day and all the Levites came forward. Because they were willing to execute God’s justice, even in their own families and tribes, that day they were given the priesthood. That is a picture that tells us something about what it costs to be a priest of the Lord. You cannot be a priest of the Lord and refuse to execute His justice. We have to hold even our own family to a certain standard of righteousness or we end up praying judicial prayers even on them.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

Scripture: Exodus 32:11

It is interesting to look at Moses’ intercession. His intercession was based on one concept. Verse 11 says, *“Then Moses pleaded with the Lord his God, and said: ‘Lord, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?’”* Moses saw that he had one primary goal – to turn away the wrath of the Lord against the sin of His people. That brings us a question – is wrath an issue in the New Testament? Most of our church leaders today would tell us, “Wrath is not an issue. Jesus took God’s wrath on Himself. Therefore, we are not appointed to wrath but to salvation. So wrath is not an issue in the New Testament.” That sounds good and I wish it were true. Because it is prominent and very appealing theology today in many nations, it is the first thing we must look at. What is the truth about wrath against sin in the New Testament? Does God judge in the New Testament? Does God’s wrath kill in the New Testament? Revelation answers that question, but why are leaders like Rob Bell not reading it? The first outbreaks of wrath should be seen on pimps in pulpits!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

Scripture: Romans 1:18-20

Romans 1:18-20 says, *“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse...”* It is obvious from Romans 1 that wrath is an issue in the New Testament and that it is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness in men by God's actions in judgment against their sin. Perhaps he is talking about the flood. It is very obvious that wrath is still an issue in the New Testament, otherwise we could scratch Romans 1. But not only does it say wrath is an issue, Paul goes on to say there are seven successive steps to implementation. That sounds like wrath is very much an issue in the New Testament. And while Jesus saved us from it, we have something to do in that process which is very important. If wrath is not an issue in the New Testament, then why does the Holy Spirit outline seven straight steps in the slide to the judgment of God in action? Wrath is very much an issue in the New Testament and there is no getting away from it. Romans 1:18-20 says we are utterly and forever without excuse. God's wrath is revealed and if we want to avoid it, then avoid these seven attitudes and actions. Wrath is an issue. Even though Jesus took a measure of it on Himself, for our salvation, it is still a judicial issue when we knowingly, repeatedly choose sin. Receive the Savior and His blood, which saves us from the wrath to come. Our prayers should shape the “path of wrath” when it manifests. Moses’ prayers shaped the “path of wrath” right up to Korah, Dathan and Abiram’s front door. Since God is no respecter of persons, covenant should provide the same opportunity.

THURSDAY, MAY 9

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:1;11

1 Thessalonians 5:9 states, *“For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ...”* Context determines meaning. The context draws a distinction between those who live of the day and those who live of the night. Just because we are appointed to salvation does not mean we achieve it. If we choose darkness, a lifestyle of worldliness, then we get the blackness of night forever! Wrath is revealed against sin. Jude warns us of the same eternal sentence in verses 3-7, *“For when they say, ‘Peace and safety!’ then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night.”* When leaders take a nation down a course that guarantees God's wrath, the church should switch immediately from “praying for” to “praying against.” Pray the wrath off the nation and onto the Godless leaders, as an issue of justice. If the Supreme Court rules for homosexual marriage, then the church prays wrath on each justice who voted for it until they are like Herod, “eaten by worms.” Wrath should help others repent. The fire that destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah was a message for every generation!

FRIDAY, MAY 10

Scripture: Romans 1:21

Romans 1:21a says, *“...because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God...”* Step 1 in creating a breach in any nation, any place, any time, is when people openly, knowingly and repeatedly refuse to obey God's Word. They knew God, but they refused to obey God. The 1972 Supreme Court decision to remove prayer from schools is a perfect example of Step 1. Things have gone downhill for this nation ever since. Romans 1:21b begins with, *“...nor were thankful...”* The second thing the Supreme Court did was they disallowed any religious displays on public property, as if public property was somehow not financed by Christian people. In utter denial of the heritage of America, the Supreme Court made this decision. If there was ever a group deserving of the wrath of God, it is certain members of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has created more breaches and gaps than any other organization in America. And those breaches have hastened the filling of the cup of iniquity.

Until the church steps up into their judicial authority, nations will continue to have organizations like the Court create breaches. Adversity and destruction will continue to flow to the nation until we, as the believing church, pray justice on the perpetrators. *"Give place to wrath"* means create a path by prayer to the front door of the perpetrator! Only try it if you are led by the Spirit and *serious* about saving the nation!

SATURDAY, MAY 11

Scripture: Romans 1:21b

Romans 1:21b continues, *"...but became futile in their thoughts..."* Probably the highest futility ever executed by the Supreme Court was removing the Ten Commandments from public property signage. Because, in the very building where they meet, there is Moses the Lawgiver, receiving the Ten Commandments. Imagine the magnitude of hypocrisy in order to rule against the very individual that is depicted on their own building by previous generations. Since we still have a number of the Justices who support removing the Ten Commandments, it is obvious the church is not standing in the gap. If we had, we would have seen the wrath of God on the Justice's heads and they would have been removed. Moses exhibited a pattern for saving his nation. We have to pray the wrath of God off of our nations and onto the perpetrators of the breach. Find out which Justices consistently approve of abortion and homosexual marriage. It is not hard to determine which ones are widening the gap and which ones need the full measure of God's wrath on their head. It should be prayed until they are removed. And if their replacements vote the same way, then we pray the same way. It is time to stand in the gap! The book of Revelation declares the Judicial Christ will be visible in the last days! Give place to wrath, create a path!

SUNDAY, MAY 12

Scripture: Romans 1:21b,22

Romans 1:21b ends with, *"...and their foolish hearts were darkened."* Probably the best sign to come out of America's Supreme Court declaring their foolish hearts were darkened was the 1972 decision, *Roe v. Wade*. Most of us know in this case, the Court decided that viability of human life does begin at birth not conception. This ruling legalized the murder of children before they were born. The shedding of innocent blood has been a major breach in the land. Every individual who votes for or supports a pro-abortion politician invites the wrath of God on their head. This is an issue that goes well beyond Democrats or Republicans. It goes far beyond political leanings. It goes to the very destruction of the nation itself. Have we seen manifestations of the wrath of God? If 911 was not one of those, I am unsure what one would be. If Hurricane Katrina was not one of those, I am unsure of what one would be. America is vulnerable because breaches have been opened up for decades and still remain unfilled by the church. Don't give place to wrath and create a path if that path leads to your front door because of your votes. Change who you vote for, then pray! Step 5 is in Romans 1:22, *"Professing to be wise, they became fools,..."* Our American schools substituted secular humanism for biblical Christianity that had been taught for years. Replacing biblical morality with secular humanism has produced a generation of fools, who not only do not know American history, but seem to think communism is a good thing. Give place to wrath, create a path!

MONDAY, MAY 13

Scripture: Romans 1:23

Romans 1:23 opens up Step 6 in the descent of the wrath of God toward a nation. Verse 23 says, *"...and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things."* Verse 23 speaks of nature-worship, which widens the gap that can destroy a nation. Environmentalist stupidity has become a great tool toward destroying America's economy. Years ago, politically-connected people began to tout a new doctrine they called 'global warming'. They manipulated science to try to prove this doctrine, but did it with deception. Instead of gathering true scientific data, they selectively ignored 3,500 potential reporting points at higher altitudes. Proving global warming enabled politicians to pass new laws to

control carbon emissions. But what the liberal media refused to report was the politicians pushing global warming simultaneously set up the first carbon-trading banks in America. This meant that if they could trade and sell carbon credits, billions and trillions of dollars would flow into their hands. Essentially, they manufactured what appeared to be Global Warming so they could line their pockets. It seems the politicians behind global warming were the two families who occupied the presidency and vice presidency in those early years. Through George Soros-funded organizations, both families continue to promote the lie of climate change being based on fossil fuels. But the lie has made onshore drilling effectively impossible, as not one lease of public property has been granted under the current administration. Where there is fuel available here in America, our refineries are forced to begin to move offshore. There is enough oil in America to cut our gas prices in half and even pay off our national debt. But nature-worship prevents us from going after it. Romans 1 calls radical environmentalism nature-worship and shows how obominable it really is. That creates a breach. To stand in the gap and save the land means praying the wrath of God on worshippers of nature until they can no longer widen the breach, and our nation can be saved.

TUESDAY, MAY 14

Scripture: Romans 1:24-30

Step 7 in the nations slide to seeing the full measure of the wrath of God is the emergence of legalizing homosexual marriage. When the nation begins to reel under the impact of God-haters then we know that God's wrath is very close. Do we have God-haters in America today? Yes, we absolutely do. Hate-speech laws have been passed that make the undiluted preaching and practicing of the Bible potentially illegal. For a minister to say to a homosexual partnership, "I will not marry you because our Bible says homosexuality is sin and is abhorrent to the Living God." For him to cite Leviticus 18:22, Leviticus 20:13 or 1 Corinthians 6:9 as reason for refusing to join two men or two women in a biblical marriage before God, he or the church could find themselves sued under hate-speech "discrimination" laws. One political party has frequently supported the position of God-haters and they currently rule the nation. Passing homosexual marriage means lawsuits for the local churches, and potential jail for our Bible-obedient pastors. God-haters are alive and well and have the support of a major political party. They are set on even changing school curriculums for the youngest children to require teachers to positively mention and affirm homosexuality. They want even our youngest kids indoctrinated with a doctrine of "tolerance" which is polar opposite to the Word of God. Homosexuality is a lifestyle that guarantees the filling of the cup of iniquity and the wrath of God on the nation. Where is the church standing in the gap, praying the judicial Hand of God on every promoter? Give place to wrath, create a path!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

Scripture: Romans 1:31,32

Romans 1:31,32 pronounces a sentence and tells us a measure of the wrath of God that is deserved by all the people who practice these things. It identifies a breach which guarantees the wrath of God manifesting, and bringing judgment. And what is the issue of the wrath of God that people that practice such things are not only worthy of death, but **also** those who approve of those who practice them. Verse 32 makes that very, very clear. I do not know a greater way to approve of someone who practices the behaviors that deserve wrath, than voting for politicians who support them. Since there are both Democratic and Republican politicians who support them, voting for them puts us in biblical and legal jeopardy concerning the wrath of God. It is time we developed believers who understand what it means to stand in the gap. And when we stand in the gap, we recognize what the breach is. We ask God to have covenant mercy on the nation, and instead of destroying the nation, to bring destruction to the promoters of the lifestyles while saving the deceived perpetrators. Moses did that four times, and four times the nation was saved from utter destruction. Surely we can teach New Testament believers to stand in the gap and move God's Judicial Hand! I believe a great harvest is coming from the homosexual community. Give place to wrath, create a path!

THURSDAY, MAY 16

Scripture: Acts 4:32-37

If the Supreme Court votes in favor of homosexual marriage, then the Justices who vote for it are worthy of wrath. To save the nation, the church should pray, "Lord, weigh to these Justices what they've weighed to the nation!" That is biblical justice! Perhaps the next question that follows concerning the issue of the wrath of God is, "Does Jesus kill in order to save?" Since it is obvious there is a connection to standing in the gap and saving the nation, then we must be willing to pray God's Judicial Hand on the promoters to save the perpetrators. Can we find places in the New Testament where Jesus kills in order to save. The answer to that is yes and we can start in Acts 4:32-37. Verses 32-37 says, *"Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need. And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus, having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet."* Right after the prayer of agreement that brought boldness for signs and wonders, one of the first things that happened was that no one said anything they had was his own. So those with excess lands, rental properties or goods, sold them and brought the proceeds and laid them at the apostle's feet. One example was Barnabus, having agrarian land, which was illegal for a Levite, sold it and brought the proceeds to lay at the apostle's feet. Barnabus' act of obedience under the Old Testament, established a plumbline by the Holy Spirit and helped highlight a judicial standard God was dropping on that body of believers. He was delivering everyone from the love of money, because shortly a persecution would break out in Jerusalem that would cause thousands of believers to flee. When they fled, their property values would be much less than they were at the present. So in a market not seeing panic, the people got to sell their properties and sow it. Their actions established a judicial plumbline that would judge those who refused to obey. Give place to wrath, create a path!

FRIDAY, MAY 17

Scripture: Acts 5:1-5

Ananias and Sapphira refused to obey the Spirit. They were immediately terminated. Had Ananias and Sapphira been allowed to continue, they would have reintroduced the love of money or spirit of mammon to the young church. We see that after the persecution of Stephen many new churches were planted. And if the love of money had not been removed, the new churches would have undoubtedly carried this seed. Did God kill in order to save? He most definitely did! Moses prayed the promoters of sexual sin into judgment to save the nation. We should start with the president and politicians, including errant Supreme Court justices worthy of God's removal for bringing death and destruction to the nation! Give place to wrath, create a path!

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Scripture: Acts 12:1-5

In Acts 12:1-5 we are told, *"Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was during the Days of Unleavened Bread. So when he had arrested him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to keep him, intending to bring him before the people after Passover. Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church."* James had been executed, Peter had been left in prison, and he was going to be executed shortly. One of the things we have noticed about the wrath of God is, that whenever it falls, it dictates that whatever people are weighing in rebellion gets weighed back to them. When Jesus comes as Judge, He rewards people according to

their works. So all the judgments of Scripture have in them the seed of the sin of commission, somewhere. Even if it goes back a couple of generations. Lot's wife, for example, becomes a pillar of salt because she violated the covenant of salt. Because Egypt killed the sons of the Israelites, all their firstborn were killed in one night. Just like Pharaoh ordered the sons of the Israelites to be drowned in the Nile, all the sons in the Egyptian army were drowned in the Red Sea. Over and over again in Scripture, God's wrath that brings death rewards people based on what they do. His judgments are custom-made. Herod killed James and prepared to kill Peter. Now the question is, in God's wrath, does He kill in order to save? For all the people who believe that wrath is not a problem anymore because Jesus took care of it, how can they deny that God killed Herod?! Herod's termination was undeniably God-originated! Maybe it is because wrath is still an issue in the New Testament. Surely Peter rejoiced when his calling was not cut short. Praying a path for wrath saved Peter!

SUNDAY, MAY 19

Scripture: Acts 12:6-23

The early church prayed for Peter and an angel was sent. How was Peter delivered from the hand of Herod? Not only does the angel let him out, but an angel of the Lord destroyed Herod so that he could not go back and destroy Peter. It is obvious in the New Testament, that the same wrath that brings the judicial end to perpetrators in the Old Testament brings the judicial end to perpetrators in the New Testament. Covenantal wrath killed Herod! It is still an issue. It is still a covenant issue. It still can be prayed, declared and decreed over those who are worthy! And the biblical principle is, "God, weigh to them what they are weighing to Your people." Once you get that principle you can stand in the gap, anywhere, any place, any time! Pray accordingly! Give place to wrath, create a path!

MONDAY, MAY 20

Scripture: Acts 12:5

Isn't it interesting that constant, continual prayer was being offered for Peter. Now what does that tell us? To me, that tells us they were building a wall against evil. They were standing in the gap for Peter. And because they were willing to stand in the gap for Peter, Peter got delivered. But that was not the only thing that happened – Peter got delivered and the threat got removed. The same measure that Herod weighed to the early church, God weighed to Herod. Now that is biblical justice in action, up close and personal. Those are the kind of things that we should be praying – if we were to stand in that place, there would be a big change in what goes on in our nation. But the church is not standing in the gap. We are called to, we are anointed to, but we are not. Don't you think it is time we start doing what we are supposed to do? Give place to wrath, create a path!

TUESDAY, MAY 21

Scripture: Romans 2:36, 9:22-29

Isn't it interesting that the New Testament would make a statement like verses 22-24, "*What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?*" Did God want to show His wrath and make His power known? According to Romans 9, He did. God wanted people to see both His wrath and His mercy. Isn't that interesting? At any given time, God wants people to be willing to look out and see both His wrath and His mercy. Does the church have that view today? Does the church have the view that we are supposed to demonstrate both God's mercy and God's wrath? Absolutely not. But in Acts 2, that is the very thing we are called to do. Acts 2:36 says, "*Therefore let all the house of Israel **know assuredly** that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.*" The fruit of Lord is judicial wrath. The fruit of Christ is judicial mercy. So that in any given moment, based on what the Holy Spirit desires, He should be able to direct us

saying, “Demonstrate judicial wrath,” or “Demonstrate judicial mercy!” The church is prepared to demonstrate mercy. By not being enabled to facilitate wrath, we enable evil. BY not learning to “...give place to wrath...” we facilitate evil. But that makes us enablers of evil. Until we can demonstrate judicial wrath, we will be enablers of evil and that needs to change! Wrath is an issue and it is a serious one. Until the church gives place to wrath, evil will rarely meet justice! Give place to wrath, create a path!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

Scripture: Romans 12:19

Romans 12:19 says, “Beloved, do not **avenge yourselves**, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.” The real question becomes how we should give place to wrath. Surely there has to be an answer. How do we give place to wrath? The answer has to be somewhere in the context of the verse. It says, “Beloved, do not **avenge yourselves**, but rather give place to wrath; ...” So if we do not avenge ourselves, how do we give place to wrath? If we do not avenge ourselves, it means God does. **Our job is to ask!** Did Jesus ever teach us anything about our relationship with God and avenging? He most certainly did. But that answer might be a bit surprising. Most of us who have been schooled in the Priestly have one mindset – to forgive and go on. Whatever God wants to do, let Him do. But that view goes against God's specific plan. How does His plan work? We will have to find it by searching out the word “*avenge*” in Scripture. The Greek word “*avenge*” means, ‘Give me covenantal justice!’ Give place to wrath, create a path!

THURSDAY, MAY 23

Scripture: Luke 18:1-7

Luke 18:1-7 says, “Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: ‘There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, “Get justice for me from my adversary.” And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, “Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.”’ Then the Lord said, ‘Hear what the unjust judge said. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?’” Isn't it interesting that the way we give place to wrath is to ask God to do the avenging? It is an issue of prayer. We are to pray and not lose heart. So this widow suffered an injustice. She went to the judge and asked him to rectify the injustice. The judge said no. Finally she began to pray, “Avenge me of my adversary.” The issue of this prayer is to not give up and not quit. The way we give place to wrath is that we ask God for covenant justice and covenant recompense. That is the principle upon which we ask. As we continue to ask for covenant recompense, God hears us, moves into action and He does it. What we are told in Romans was not to avenge ourselves. We are told to give place to wrath, or ask and pray for justice. We ask for a covenant manifestation of justice even if it means the wrath of God on an individual. Our job is to ask for biblical justice. It is our job. The way we give place to wrath is to ask God for covenant justice. The words for avenge are identical. It makes it obvious that to give place to wrath is to ask God for covenant justice. Anything less is not giving place to wrath. Give place to wrath, create a path!

FRIDAY, MAY 24

Scripture: Luke 18:7,8

Jesus said that God would avenge us speedily and then He challenged us. Will He find faith that moves God's Hand for covenant justice when He returns? Will He find faith or not? That was the question troubling Jesus. He wanted to know if He would find faith that moves His hand for justice. That is a challenge to you and I. So now we understand – giving place to wrath means that we ask for covenant justice and demand it out of God's Hand. And we should get it! Can we ask for covenant justice on errant Supreme Court justices, the president, senators, representatives and all Godless government officials? Give place to wrath, create a path!

SATURDAY, MAY 25

Scripture: Revelation 11:1-5

Revelation 11:1-5 says, *“Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, ‘Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.’ These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner.”* It is interesting that the two witnesses in Revelation 11 demonstrate the Judicial Hand of God all the time that the enemy is treading down the Holy City underfoot. In the theology I grew up with, these two witnesses were two individuals. Recently, people with the weight of Jack Hayford have introduced their views that the two witnesses are actually the church. If they are the church, what are the differences? They could easily be the Kingly ministry and the Priestly ministry. The truth is, we reach a point where we do not really know for sure. But there is one thing that is obvious. The wrath of God leads to termination. And here are two individuals that are given the authority to terminate whatever comes against their purpose. The key understanding of *“Avenge me of my adversary...”* is that those who are threatening my God-given purpose, if they refuse to relent, God will remove them. That is what we need to be praying. The real question is, are we praying that? We should be! Give place to wrath, create a path!

SUNDAY, MAY 26

Scripture: Revelation 11:6

In Revelation 11:6 we are told, *“These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.”* In this verse, we discover some interesting things about God and man when it comes to the issue of God's judicial wrath. His wrath can reach a point where God says to His people, *“You are enduring the wrath of antichrist, therefore I am giving you judicial authority to use any way you see fit.”* The key phrase in the verse is, *“as often as they desire.”* Judgment shifts from God to man, who is enduring the adversity of the culture. At one point, as believers are enduring the adversity of the culture, God's judicial power-shift comes and what they decree is done! There is a point where the culture becomes so perverse that God says to believers, *“Since you endure it, you judge it!”* God says, *“Whatever you think is appropriate, I will do. You declare it, I will perform it.”* Now that is a shift that most of us have never made. Most of us have never thought that God would give us anything we ask concerning justice in the earth. Yet, that is one of the things the book of Revelation shows us. When the culture deteriorates, God says He will do whatever we ask. Are we coming to that place? I suspect we are. But the church does not realize we can enter that dimension. There is a major job to be done in the days ahead. The job is to grow the church to the place where they realize that we have a part to play in the dispensing of God's judicial wrath. And it is based on what we are experiencing. That is a real shift in thinking, but it is Scripture. Unless we want to take a pen knife and cut the passage from the pages of the Word, that is what it says. Mature believers, give place to wrath, create a path!

MONDAY, MAY 27

Scripture: Romans 13:1-4

Romans 13:1-4 says, *“Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.”*

For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil." These verses bring up a fairly simple question. Whose job is wrath? We have been taught that all wrath fell on Jesus. Therefore, wrath is not an issue. But, it is an issue, according to Romans 1. And now, Scripture gives definition to how the wrath of God is an issue of justice against evil-doers and specifically those who practice evil. Those who consistently practice evil are worthy of God's wrath. It is government's job to execute that. But what if government starts calling good evil and evil good? Who is worthy of God's wrath if government abandons the execution of wrath based on what the Bible says is evil? Whose job does it become? Is it God's job? According to Romans 13, it is the government's job. Is there a government that is higher than our civil government? Is God's government higher than our civil government? If God's government is higher than our civil government, then it is God's government's job. And who represents God's government? Are those assigned doing their job? Is where you go to church preparing you for this assignment? If it is not, what are you going to do about it? Give place to wrath, create a path!

TUESDAY, MAY 28

Scripture: Revelation 1:5,6

Are we called to spiritual government? Revelation 1:5,6 says, *"...and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."* If Revelation 1:5,6 is true, who rules over who? Does God's government rule over antichrist man's government? Who ultimately rules over who? If we are called God's government and we are supposed to rule, what kind of prayers do we have to pray over antichrist leaders? How is wrath manifested? Whose job is it? Do we have faith to move God's Judicial Hand? Give place to wrath, create a path!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

Scripture: Acts 2:34-36

Acts 2:34-36 says, *"For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.'" "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.""* I guess the real question is, who is walking on who? If government is walking on the church, then government is ruling over the church. If the church is walking on the government, then the church is ruling over the government. Who is walking on whom? It is a decent question, and it needs an answer. Is government prevailing over us or are we prevailing over government? If government is prevailing over the church, what is wrong with the church? Do we really not know everything Jesus bought and paid for, for us? Someone needs to connect the dots! Give place to wrath, create a path!

THURSDAY, MAY 30

Scripture: Revelation 5:7,8

Revelation 5:7,8 says, *"Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints."* What are the prayers of the saints doing before the Throne in this passage? The answer is, they are moving God's Hand judicially. Are our prayers moving God's Hand judicially? Is that really happening? When you ask God to avenge you of your adversary and the adversary is the President, what qualifies as an answer? Asking God to take his mind, like Nebuchadnezzar, until he learns God rules is a valid prayer. Let God arise and His enemies be scattered! Give place to wrath, create a path!

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Scripture: Revelation 5:9,10, Acts 13:6-13

Verses 9,10 says, *“And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.’”* Now since Jesus made us Kings and Priests and since we shall **reign**/do what Kings do, or **rule** in the earth, how is our **rule** manifested? When Peter was in jail and the church prayed consistently, how was rule manifested? The angels visited Herod. Do many angels visit Supreme Court justices? Do many angels visit the President or Vice President? As things stand today, who seems to be walking on who? Perhaps the real question should be, why are we letting the civil government walk on God's government? Are we called to government? If so, who is walking on who? Acts 13:6-13 says, *“Now when they had gone through the island[a] to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar-Jesus, who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, ‘O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.’ And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord. Now when Paul and his party set sail from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia; and John, departing from them, returned to Jerusalem.”* Paul displays God's Judicial Hand in blindness. It is obvious where the governmental authority was, and it was not with the proconsul, it was with Paul. Isn't it time we stood up to be all that God called us to be? Give place to wrath, create a path!

Itinerary

5/3 – 5/4	Colorado Springs, CO	Hilton Garden Inn, Majestic room 1810 Briargate Pkwy, Colorado Springs, CA, 80920 May 3rd and 4th, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm, 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Cindy Grooms 619-990-1907
5/10 – 5/12	Seattle, WA	Horizon Church 602 Valley St, Seattle WA 98109 Fri, Sat 7:00 PM, Sun 10:30 am	Pastor Doug Heck 206-282-9400
5/12 – 5/13	Delta, BC	Kingdom Harvest Ministries, int'l New location! 6897 120 th St. Delta, BC Sun, Mon evening, call for meeting times	Pastor Darcy Dube 915-523-6800

© 2013 Word at Work Ministries, Inc. Reproduction encouraged to share with others.

Houghton, Al. *Building a Wall Against Evil III*. Word At Work Bible Study. Vol. 33.5. Word at Work Ministries, May 2013.

PO Box 366, Placentia CA 92871. 714-996-1015. www.wordatwork.org info@wordatwork.org