

Berean Christian Fellowship DEVOTIONAL 106.0

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The Father Answers Man—P5

"For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of dis-strong and every slave and free man hid themobedience" (Colossians 3:6).

-n 12:31), the Father has power over him, for He "has established His throne in the heavens, and His sovereignty rules over all" (Psalm 103:19). "The kingdom is the Lord's And He rules over the nations" (Psalm 22:28).

Man's conspiracy with satan to "cast off" God's "fetters," His Holy Spirit's restraint, and His Son's coming reign over the earth may seem overwhelming to us, but "He who sits in the heavens laughs, the Lord scoffs at them. Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying, 'But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain'" (Psalm 2:4-6). His King is Jesus Christ, who told the rulers, "My kingdom is not ment; take warning, O judges of the earth. of this world" (John 18:36a) when He came to redeem mankind by His blood, but the day is near when Jesus will return, and the world will hear "loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever'" (Rev. 11:15).

The Father decreed this "Day of the Lord" (Obadiah 1:15), and promised it to His Son, Who testified: "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession" (Psalm 2:7-8). The angel Gabriel told Mary that on earth, God's Son would be named "Jesus. He will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end" (Luke 1:32-33).

Despite man's increase in knowledge and his technological sorcery, the time will come when "the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the selves in the caves and among the rocks of the While satan is "the ruler of this world" (Joh mountains; and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, 'Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb'" (Rev. 6:15-16), fulfilling the Father's promise to His Son: "You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware" (Psalm 2:9). All man's "good works" to save himself from God's judgment of his sin will instead reap destruction, for their "savior" is the "son of destruction" (2 Thess. 2:3). Regardless how terribly "the nations were enraged...[God's] wrath came, and the time came...to destroy those who destroy the earth" (Rev. 11:18).

> "Now therefore, O kings, show discern-Worship the LORD with reverence and rejoice with trembling. Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled" (Psalm 2:10-12a). Mankind must understand that the Father's present "kindness and tolerance and patience" (Romans 2:4) is grace for repentance, not a blind eye for their sin; therefore, as "the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15b)! Turn from "immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you...that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:19-21). "Be saved from this perverse generation!" (Acts 2:40b), "through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21a) - "How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!" (Psalm 2:12b). Even so, Amen.

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