

What about God's wrath in the Old Testament? Difficult Bible Questions...

1. Not only the OT, but the NT also has many references to God's _____
 - a) 100s of NT verses portray God as one who is not quite as lazy and easy-going towards sin and spiritual negligence as we sometimes assume
 2. Primary difference between OT and NT "wrath of God" is that the NT references are in terms of the _____, while OT is in terms of God's action in the _____
 3. Wrath or judgment of God really is only a _____ part of the overall OT story
- A. The Big Picture(Cliff Notes to the OT): 5 Sections to the OT
1. Primeval History (1st 11 chapters of Genesis) – from Creation to 1st Patriarch
 2. The _____ (Pentateuch/Torah; 1st 5 books of Bible, Gen –Deut) – the laws and rules Israel used in their political and religious systems
 3. The Historical Books (Joshua – Esther) – not only about Israel's history, but also how, in that history, obeying the Law will bless a people and how disobeying the Law will bring hardship
 - the point of God's wrath in the OT is to teach a people who lived 3000 years ago, that it is in everyone's best interest to follow the Law; obey and you will be blessed, disobey and you will be cursed
 - it *doesn't* take into account people who obey God and still are "cursed"
 4. The _____ (Job – Song of Songs) – poetry, philosophy, and ethics of the people of Israel, while it also teaches about scenarios where following the Law does not lead to blessing
 - If bad things happen to good people like Job, then how can *anyone* find true salvation in this life?
 5. The _____ Literature (Isaiah – Malachi) – Prophets' words to the nation of Israel; sin would lead to their undoing
 - a) prophets - even at our best, none of us are really following God's Laws the way we should
 - b) If things go wrong when we do what is right, and things get even worse when we do what is wrong, How will life *ever* get better?
 - c) on our own, how will mankind *ever* find joy, love, peace, freedom & the abundance that we know God wants for us?
- B. OT Ending - "Lord God Almighty, how will we ever get out of this mess of life we find ourselves in?"
- C. 400 years later, Jesus was the _____ to all the questions, problems & issues raised by the OT
- D. When we look at the big picture of God's work in our world through the Old and New Testaments, what we find is an amazing revelation of God's love and grace working throughout history, one that is true, yesterday, today, and forever
1. Wrath/judgment 2. future, past 3. minor 2. Law 4. Writings 5. Prophetic C. answer