"The Wrath of the Lamb" Sunday Morning, October 1st, 2023

Big Idea: "The only way we will not face the wrath of the Lamb on that Day, is to flee now to the Lamb that was slain."

- 1. Prior to today's sermon, how have you thought about the Day of Judgement?
- 2. **Unpopular**: Read Matt 10:28. How do you think people, even people in the church, perceive the wrath of God? Is there a reluctance to talk about this aspect of God's nature? Why?
- 3. **Exposed**: Think about the threat of *being exposed*. What does that mean for people in this culture? How does the Gospel address this fear?
- 4. **Hope**: As you think about last week's text, does the promise of this dreadful Day give you any encouragement or hope? Why?²
- 5. **Sin of Unbelief**: Kevin spoke about a common misunderstanding of the sin of unbelief. It's not just checking the wrong belief box, it's truly "an act of profound disrespect and dishonor for the Creator and Lord of the universe." How is this definition contrary to popular opinion? How does it compare to your own understanding of the sin of unbelief?
- 6. **Wisdom**: Read Prov 9:10. Though fear of the Lord is not a popular subject, the Bible shows us that it is the very start of wisdom. Why is fearing the Lord is the first step to true wisdom? How have you seen this play out in your life?
- 7. **Inclusive**: What did you learn from the sevenfold description of those who flee from verse 15? How is the inclusivity of God's judgement *not* consistent with what many in our day believe?

¹ SDGs from the Sunday morning sermon are available on the small groups page of the church website.

² Think especially about verse 11.

Outline

I. Introduction

- a. "We must flee from the wrath of the lamb now while we still have time, so that we do not have to flee from the wrath of the lamb now when it's too late."
- b. (1) The uninterested, (2) the "vaguely pro-Jesus," (3) the professing Christian that doesn't truly know Christ.
- II. *4 reasons* we may not fear and flee from the wrath of the Lamb:
 - a. Reason #1: ...because you might not believe that Day is coming.
 - i. Apostles Creed: "...from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead."
 - ii. Jn 5:27 "He has given the Son authority to execute judgement."
 - iii. Meaning of the 6th Seal: God's end-time judgement.
 - b. Reason #2: ...because you have not considered what the Day will be like.
 - i. Q3: Hiding in the rocks and the mountain. Sinners exposed.
 - c. Reason #3: ...because someone like yourself will be safe on this Day.
 - i. Most Americans believe in hell, yet no one thinks they are going there.
 - ii. **Q5**: Sin of Unbelief³
 - iii. Q7: The Inclusivity of God's Judgment: everyone.4
 - d. Reason #4: ... because you and I have not thought rightly about the one who sits on the throne and the Lamb.
 - i. Irony: fear a Lamb?
 - ii. Cliffhanger: Who can stand? Those who have been sealed (7:4).

III. Conclusion

a. Irony of the Gospel: "The only way that you and I will not face the wrath of the Lamb on that Day, is to flee now to the Lamb that was slain."

³ "If Jesus is the most glorious most exalted most honorable, most worthy person, the God-man, then is not your disregard for him a serious crime? If his glory is small, his excellency is meager, his person is insignificant than you are right to esteem him not. But what if he is supremely valuable? (...) It's not a slight mental error. It is an act of profound disrespect, and dishonor for the Creator and the Lord of the universe."

⁴ "God's judgment is terribly and terrifyingly inclusive. It's diverse, it's equitable, and it's inclusive. He makes no exceptions for senators, no exceptions for congressmen, movie stars, wealthy entrepreneurs, movers and sakers, the strong and the influential, neither does he make exceptions for the poor and the lowly. (...) On that great Day God will not ask how much you have made, where you went to school, or who your daddy was. He will say, 'What did you do with Jesus? What did you make of the Lamb?"