

GOD'S CUP OF WRATH

Note the following verses:

1. Jer. 25:15-29
2. Isa. 51:17, 22
3. Ps. 75:8
4. Rev. 14:10
5. Rev. 16:19
6. Rev. 18:4-6

wine > blood > what shed the blood of Christ?

└ consequences of sin



a cup is a container to hold wine

wine – result of pressure applied to ripe grapes (there's no grape juice from unripe grapes!)

sin → matures → ripens → pressure applied → “wine”/bloodshed is created

cup – God *holding* back the immediate results of evil and shielding us from a full revelation of Himself until maturation comes.

Rom. 2:5 can be rightly translated: “By your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath *in* yourself on the day of wrath, when God’s righteous judgment will be revealed.” (Change based on NT Greek; rest of translation NRSV).

In one sense, then we are the receptacles of our own sins that God holds together against the natural consequences of our choice to give us another chance. Once He “pours” those “out” who have rejected Him chaos is the result. Thus the action of “pouring” is “letting go” or “giving up” people to the full consequences of their choices. This fits with the biblical description of divine wrath found in Rom. 1:18, 24, 26, 28. There God’s wrath is “revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of those who by their wickedness suppress the truth” (NRSV). In the verses following, it states three times that therefore “God gave them up” to their ways. Thus God’s wrath is giving people up who have persistently rejected His every attempt to win them back to love and trust.

drinking – reception of consequences of sin

making of peace between two parties

in ancient times = act of worship → extol the gods (cf. Dan. 6)