

A. DELIVER US FROM EVIL

a. Introduction

- i. Forgiveness is the key concept of this the final chapter of Wright's book
- ii. Three books he recommends
 1. Exclusion and Embrace by Miroslav Volf
 2. Embodying Forgiveness by L. Gregory Jones
 3. No Future Without Forgiveness by Desmond Tutu
- iii. Forgiveness releases the injuring party from the burdens of anger and its possible consequences and releases the injured party from the burden of anger and bitterness.
- iv. God's forgiveness, our forgiveness of one another and even of ourselves is central to "deliver us from evil".

b. God's Final Victory Over Evil

- i. Evil will not be solved by developmental progress or evolution.
- ii. How can it be that when there is finally no evil in God's New Creation that there will not be residual anger, resentment, or guilt for all the evil that already existed?
 1. God has dealt with evil ultimately on the cross.
 2. God will forgive the world and that forgiveness will release the world from the burden of guilt.
 3. This forgiveness will insure the complete and final victory over evil (No future without forgiveness).

4. In the end "All shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well". T.S. Eliot and Julian of Norwich.
 5. We live not in optimism but in hope
- iii. Revelation 4-5 as a paradigm for what Wright is talking about.
1. The praise of the angels and the elders
 2. The anguish because the scroll which forwards God's plan cannot be opened-no human has been found worthy
 3. The Lamb who is worthy and forwards God's plan
 4. Humans will finally serve God and reign on earth as God's stewards
 5. The cross has won the victory but much remains to be done.
 6. We must live lives which worship our Creator and reflect His image in His Creation.
 - a. We are to bring healing and order
 - b. God through us will put the world to rights under His just and gentle rule
 7. The Church is not so much the Community of the Saved as it is the Kingdom of Priests serving God and reigning on earth.