

Paul's Epistle to the ROMANS

12/27/2020 AM

"The Wrath of God - Its Results" Romans 1:24-32



Introduction:

The "values" of our society:

- secularism
- materialism
- sensualism
- tolerance

I. THE VERDICT ON THE SUPPRESSION OF TRUTH IN OUR SOCIETY (vs. 24-25)

A. God's Sentence (vs. 24)

"therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity"

Mark 14:10; 15:1 (c.f. Matthew 27:46)

"so that their bodies would be dishonored among them"

"When a man banishes God from his life he becomes a certain kind of man, and in this passage is one of the most terrible descriptions in literature of the kind of man he becomes." – William Barclay

B. Man's Culpability (vs. 25)

"for they exchanged the truth of God for a lie"

"and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator who is blessed forever. Amen."

"It was the greatest honor God did to man that He made man in [His] image but it is the greatest dishonor man has done to God that he has made God in the image of man." – Matthew Henry

II. THE VERDICT ON THE TWISTED SENSUALISM OF OUR SOCIETY (vs. 26-27)

A. God's Sentence (vs. 26a)

"for this reason God gave them over to degrading passions"

B. Man's Culpability (vs. 26b - 27)

"for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural"

"and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman"

I Corinthians 6:9-11 (c.f. Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-5; I Timothy 1:9-10; Jude 7)

"and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts"

"and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error"

III. THE VERDICT ON THE TRAGIC SINFULNESS OF OUR SOCIETY (vs. 28-32)

A. God's Sentence (vs. 28)

“and just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer...”

“God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper”

B. Man's Culpability (vs. 29-32)

character:

all unrighteousness -
wickedness -
greed -
evil -

conceit:

haters of God -
insolent -
arrogant -
boastful -

conduct:

envy -
murder -
strife -
deceit -
malice -

companionship:

inventors of evil -
disobedient to parents -
without understanding -
untrustworthy -
unloving -
unmerciful -

conversation:

gossips -
slanderers -

“and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death”

“they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them”

Conclusion:

- 1) God has revealed His eternal power and divine nature sufficiently that no person on earth at any time in history can be excused from accountability for knowing about God.
- 2) Humankind in general has substituted the worship of idols for the worship of God because idol worship allows/justifies their immorality.
- 3) Homosexuality is direct opposition to God in that it represents an inversion of the natural order, it is sin, and it carries with it a penalty for those who practice it.
- 4) Human depravity manifests itself in outward behaviors of those who have suppressed the knowledge of God.

Food for Thought:

- 1) What explains the modern concept of the natural goodness of mankind?
- 2) How does God respond to mankind's refusal to worship Him? Why is God right to be angry with everyone?
- 3) What does Scripture say about homosexual desires?
- 4) In what ways are my desires out of order? (What do I want that I know I shouldn't and what do I not want that I know I should?)