



BEULAH FIRST BAPTIST

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January 14, 2026

Focus: Rooted – A Study Through Romans

Week 2: "When Roots Are Rejected"

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Introduction: Last week, Paul introduced the power of the gospel and declared that the righteous shall live by faith. Before explaining how God saves, Paul now explains why salvation is necessary. Romans 1:18–32 confronts the reality of what happens when truth is rejected, worship is misplaced, and God is removed from the center of life. This passage is not written to shame humanity, but to reveal the broken condition that makes grace essential. Paul shows that when our roots are not anchored in God, they do not disappear; they grow in the wrong direction

Key Scriptures

- **Romans 1:18–20** – Truth revealed and suppressed
- **Romans 1:21–23** – Knowing God without honoring God
- **Romans 1:24–25** – Exchanging truth for lies
- **Romans 1:26–27** – Disordered desire as a result of misplaced worship
- **Romans 1:28–32** – Corrupted thinking and broken community

1. Truth Is Suppressed, Not Absent – (Romans 1:18–20): Paul explains that God's wrath is revealed not because people lack knowledge of God, but because they suppress the truth. God has made Himself known through creation, leaving humanity without excuse.

Truths to See

- The issue is resistance, not ignorance.
- Creation itself points to God's power and presence.
- Accountability comes from rejecting revealed truth.

Biblical Examples

- God revealing Himself through creation (Psalm 19:1–4)
- Humanity accountable before God (Acts 17:24–28)

2. Knowing God Without Honoring God Distorts the Heart – (Romans 1:21–23): Although people knew God, they refused to honor Him or give thanks. As worship shifted, thinking became futile and hearts were darkened. God's glory was exchanged for substitutes.

Truths to See

- Knowledge of God does not equal submission to God.
- Gratitude protects spiritual clarity.
- Misplaced worship reshapes identity.

Biblical Examples

- Israel exchanging God for idols (Exodus 32)
- Jesus confronting misplaced worship (Matthew 4:8–10)

3. God's Judgment Is Sometimes Permission – (Romans 1:24–25): Paul states that God “gave them over” to their desires. This does not mean God caused sin, but that He allowed people to experience the consequences of rejecting Him.

Truths to See

- Judgment can be God removing restraint.
- Exchanging truth for lies leads to distortion.
- Worship determines direction.

Biblical Examples

- Pharaoh hardened in his own resistance (Exodus 9–11)
- Israel insisting on a king (1 Samuel 8)

4. Disordered Desire Is a Symptom of Misplaced Worship – (Romans 1:26–27): Paul gives an example of how rejecting God's design leads to confusion in desire. This passage illustrates what happens when creation defines itself apart from the Creator.

Truths to See

- Broken desire flows from broken worship.
- This passage describes consequence, not comparison.
- God's design brings order and life.

Biblical Examples

- Humanity redefining good and evil (Genesis 3)
- Israel following surrounding cultures (Judges 2)

5. Removing God from the Mind Breaks Community – (Romans 1:28–31): When people refuse to keep God in their thinking, their minds become corrupted and their relationships suffer. Paul lists a wide range of sins to show the ripple effect of misplaced worship.

Truths to See

- Sin affects personal and communal life.
- Respectable and recognizable sins are both included.
- Moral breakdown follows spiritual drift.

Biblical Examples

- Cain and relational breakdown (Genesis 4)
- Communities collapsing without justice (Micah 6:8–16)

6. The Final Danger Is Approval – (Romans 1:32): Paul concludes by warning that people not only practice destructive behavior but approve of it. When conscience is silenced, sin becomes normalized.

Truths to See

- Sin is most dangerous when it is celebrated.
- Losing moral discernment deepens brokenness.
- Truth must be restored before healing can begin.

Biblical Examples

- Israel calling evil good (Isaiah 5:20)
- Religious leaders rejecting truth (John 11:47–53)