

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible  
Current Book: Romans – Message 7

2017 VISION: *Prioritizing God*

**Scriptures for Today: Romans 1:28-32 – God continues to give people up; the depths of sin.**

**Title of Today's Message: Willful Disobedience – *Sinning with knowledge of the consequences!***

## INTRODUCTION

Last week, we learned from God's Word what happens when people reject God's light. The Bible says when people profess to be wise in their own eyes, they become fools. And, they **CHANGE** the **glory of God** into an **image** and the **truth of God** into a **LIE**. As a result, God gives people up to fulfill their sinful and wicked desires and to vile affections. According to the Bible then, when people reject God's light and clear revelation from creation and the Bible, He allows them to do what they **WANT** to do! Today, we will see recorded and preserved forever in the Word of God a list of sins – crimes **AGAINST** God – which are done by people who have rejected God's light and truth. They are crimes that are punishable in God's courtroom by death and an eternal hell. The progression of sin has now led God to give people over to a reprobate mind – spiritual darkness. The most shocking truth may just be that people **KNOW** the deserved judgment of God is coming for their crimes against Him, and yet they not only continue in them but have **PLEASURE** in others doing them!

## PREACHING NOTES

1. *"And even as they did not like to **RETAIN** God in their knowledge, God GAVE THEM OVER to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;" Romans 1:28*

W1828 "retain" To keep or hold in possession; not to lose or part with or dismiss.

- ✓ Because they did **not** LIKE to **retain God** in their knowledge ...

Romans 1:18 "...who **HOLD THE TRUTH in unrighteousness**"

Romans 1:19 "Because that which may be **known of God** is **MANIFEST IN THEM**"

Romans 1:21 "Because that, **WHEN THEY KNEW GOD, they glorified him not as God**"

Job 21:14-15 "...**they say unto God, DEPART FROM US; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways**"

Proverbs 1:29 "For that **they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:**"

NOTE The legal case being presented for the guilt of all people under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit is irrefutable. Here, we see again that God is in their knowledge, and they do not like it or want Him. The light is too bright and exposes their sin. So, they choose sin over God.

In his message, "Ten Shekels and a Shirt," Paris Reidhead was speaking of his humanistic reasoning for going to Africa as a missionary. The following is an excerpt:

*And when I got to Africa, I discovered that they weren't ignorant little heathen running around in the woods waiting for or looking for someone to tell them how to go to heaven...that they knew about heaven and didn't want to go there! And they loved their sin and wanted to stay in it! They were monsters of iniquity that were living in utter and total defiance of more knowledge of God than I ever dreamed they had. They deserved hell because they utterly refused to walk in the light of their conscience and the light of the law written upon their heart and the testimony of nature and the truth they knew. They did not want to take time to talk with me or anybody else. They had no interest in the Bible and Christ and loved their sin and wanted to continue in it...*

W1828 "reprobate" Abandoned in sin; lost to virtue or grace; abandoned to error, or apostacy.

W1828 "convenient" Fit; suitable; proper.

- ✓ God **gave them over** to a REPROBATE mind, to do those things which are not convenient.

2 Corinth 13:5-7      *"Examine yourselves, whether YE be in the faith...except YE be **reprobates**?"*

2 Timothy 3:8      *"...these also **RESIST** the truth: men of corrupt minds, **reprobate** concerning the faith."*

Titus 1:16      *"They profess that they **KNOW GOD**; but in works they deny him...**reprobate**."*

NOTE      When the mind is abandoned by God, people who typically struggle with bad thoughts and sinful behavior now become FILLED with them without restraint. We must beware. In the NT, there is no "*backslider*" mentioned. Paul warned people to "*examine yourselves*."

2. *"Being FILLED WITH **all unrighteousness**, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, **disobedient to PARENTS**, Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:" Romans 1:29-31*

**Fornication** – All sexual impurity including adultery (lust), bestiality, and sodomy.

**Wickedness** – Evil in principle and practice.

**Covetousness** – A deep desire or longing for what others have; "lust" per Paul in Romans 7:7

**Maliciousness** – A disposition to cause or see another hurt or injured.

**Full of envy** – Desiring what others have in gifts, abilities, etc. It often causes rivalry toward others.

**Murder** – A desire to end another's life. It is equated to hatred in 1 John 3:15.

**Debate** – To dispute or argue; to fight or quarrel; verbal contention and strife.

**Deceit** – Causing others to believe a lie; intentional for selfish gain or malicious intent.

**Malignity** – Wishing harm toward others; violent and hateful.

**Whisperers** – Gossip; slander secretly; to intentionally attack the character of another in secret.

**Backbiters** – To attack by slander; to speak spitefully; to speak evil of in their absence.

**Haters of God** – Refusal to worship God or glorify Him as God; Anti-love of God.

**Spiteful** – Showing malice in will and a desire to hurt others; looking down upon a person to their hurt.

**Proud** – Elevating one at the expense of another; inordinate self-esteem; Satan is the father of pride.

**Boasters** – A desire to be valued above others and at the expense of others.

**Inventors of evil things** – Designed to hurt others or ourselves.

**Disobedient to parents** – A violation of the Fifth commandment; rebellion against parents and authority.

**Without understanding** – Willful ignorance and disobedience; rebellion.

**Covenant breakers** – Failing to keep a promise or contract; to break your word or commitment.

**Without natural affection** – We are accountable to God for natural affection – parents, children, etc.

**Implacable** – Ruthless; impossible to please or satisfy.

**Unmerciful** – Void of compassion, empathy or sympathy; ruthless; evil; hatred or anti-love.

NOTE      These sins are common to all men, but the reprobate mind is comfortably filled with them! Upon reading this list of crimes against God, who is there who can say they are innocent?? If you, as a blood-washed saint of God, are doing such things – repent and forsake them!

3. *"Who **KNOWING the judgment of God**, that they which commit such things are **WORTHY OF DEATH**, not only do the same, but **have PLEASURE in them that do them**." Romans 1:32*

- ✓ These people **KNOW** that such crimes are **worthy of death and hell** ... and don't want to stop!

Proverbs 23:7      *"For **as he thinketh in his heart**, so is he..."*

John 3:19      *"... and **MEN LOVED DARKNESS** rather than light, **because their deeds were evil**."*

NOTE      The lowest state of degeneracy is not in committing the acts, but in taking pleasure in the knowledge of others that sin! Beware. Consider TV and movies which come in the form of paid pleasures by the heathen AND by Christians. When you WATCH it for pleasure you are approving of it! And, when you READ it or LISTEN to it and find it stimulating – you approve!