

Rom 202 - **Our Sin & God's Wrath - Rom 1:18-32**

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is **the Power of God** for Salvation to **Everyone** who believes

& **in it** - the *Righteousness of God* is revealed - ***From Faith - To Faith***

But **the truth is** - The *Depths* of God's Love & the *True Power* of His Gospel - **can never be grasped**

**Until** we understand the truth of God's **Required Wrath** upon Sin

*God's Character* (Nature) is First & Foremost  
**Holy - Just - Righteous**

& God **CANNOT** Deny His *Holy Nature*  
& **therefore** - He MUST **Judge** sin

& **Depths** of the Love - & the **Incredible** Power of the *Gospel of Jesus Christ* is

that **thru it** - *God's Wrath* for our sin  
**Falls on** Jesus Christ - **In** our Place

Both **Satisfying** God's Required **Judgment** on our Sin & making us **Justified** (righteous) in God's Sight

**That** is the *miracle of the Gospel* -  
for **ALL** who put their Faith in Jesus Christ

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**HOWEVER** - if we *never face* the **true Depravity** of our sin we'll *never understand* the true **depth of His Sacrifice** for us

The **truth is** - We were *born in sin* - each one of us  
& *regardless* of how we **look** on the outside . . .

### **Heb 4:13 says - NLT**

***13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.***

We must understand - **God saw** the true **Depravity** of our sin  
**When** Jesus Christ *died in our place* on the cross

& **in this section** of Romans - we can (*at the very least*)  
get a little **Glimpse** - of *that Depravity* of our **Sin Nature**

& **IF** we will try to *understand*  
some of the **Wretchedness** of our *Sin Nature*

**Then** we will better *understand*  
the **True Miracle** of our *Forgiveness* in Jesus Christ

We must be able to say with the Apostle Paul

**Rom 7:18** - *For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. . .*

**Rom 7:24** - *Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?*

**if** Jesus Christ is our **Lord** today  
then **today's msg** is - the depth of sin we've *been saved from*

**if** Jesus Christ is **NOT** our **Lord** today - **then today's msg**  
is the depth of sin - *we must* one day **Face God With**

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**Let's Pray**

## **Rom 1:18 - ESV**

***18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.***

***For the wrath of God . . .***

There are **Two Greek words** used to express wrath

- 1) ***“Thumos”*** – (thermometer) = red-hot anger, impulsive, out-of-control - not used for God’s wrath
- 2) ***“Orge”*** – (here) - A **settled**, abiding condition - It is **in control**, & is **Just** & **Fair**

**God’s wrath** is **Holy** - Perfectly **Just** - & **Fair**

***[& it] is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.***

Who by their unrighteousness - **Suppress the Truth**

**Suppress** means to - **Actively Hold Down the Truth**

This is **NOT** an **Ignorance of the Truth**

**It means** - Man's Unrighteousness **actively Holds down the truth**

It's like the little boy who snuck **his puppy** into his bedroom & **then** - when his **mom** was coming . . .

he **put the puppy** in the **toy box** & sat on the lid ***ignoring the banging & barking coming from inside***

& **as he "Suppressed"** that Puppy in the toy box  
He **asked** his mom "*What's wrong Mom?*"

**As IF** she doesn't know  
that he's **Actively Holding Down** that Puppy

Sin **purposefully Suppresses** (holds down) the *knowledge of God* -  
so we can **satisfy** our own fleshly desires

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& **the reason** - we must **Actively Suppress** the *knowledge* of God  
is **because** - God has *made Himself known* to us

### **Rom 1:19 - ESV**

**19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.**

**We** certainly **don't have** the capacity  
to know **ALL** there is to know *about God*

But "**what can be known about God**" - has been **made plain** to us  
because **God Himself** has shown it to us

**When God** created man *in His own image*  
He **put in us** the *capacity* to know Him

& **then** he made Himself *Abundantly Known* to us  
in **ALL the Rest** of His Creation

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**Rom 1:20** → →

## **Rom 1:20 - ESV**

***20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.***

God's **invisible attributes**

**specifically** His **Eternal Power** & His Divine Nature

Have been **clearly perceived** by man  
**ever since** the creation of the World

Man's **capacity** to know God - **Started** when God created Man

& His ***Eternal Power & His Divine Nature*** are clearly **PERCEIVED**  
**IN** the Wonder of God's creation

## **Psa 19:1-4 - NLT**

***1 The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship.***

***2 Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.***

***3 They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard.***

***4 Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. . .***

God **made Man** with the capacity  
to **PERCEIVE** God's **Eternal Power** & **Divine Attributes**

& He made man with the **Free Will** - *at some level*  
to either **Accept** - Or **Reject** - *that Capacity* to know God

& so - **WE ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE** (end of **v.20** says)

Because - as **Rom 1:21** says - **ESV**

**21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.**

If we **REJECT** - that capacity - to **Know God**  
then we are **WITHOUT EXCUSE**

**Because** God made us - **to be able** - to know Him  
& if we **Refuse** to Honor Him - or Give Thanks to Him

Then **we are without excuse**  
**When** we face His Wrath - instead of His Forgiveness

We were Created in God's Image;  
**Placed** in a World that screams out the Glory of God  
& **made** (at the basic level) to **KNOW** there is a GOD

**BUT** - The fall of Man made us in turn  
**rebellious** & sinners by our sin nature

& **so**, altho we've been given **the Capacity** to know God  
**we rebel** against that knowledge

**We refuse** to Honor God - refuse to Give Thanks to God  
& **instead** - we **run after** our own FUTILE thinking

& that **Futile Thinking**  
ONLY causes our Foolish Hearts - to become Darkened

& **not only that** - But . . .

**Rom 1:22 says - ESV** → →

## **Rom 1:22 says - ESV**

***22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools,***

**This** is talking about **US** - Living in our *Sin Nature*

The **Greek word** for "Fools"

is the **same word** we get our word "Moron" from

**We think** we're so smart

**But** in our *Futile Thinking* - we have become **FOOLS**

**& in** that *Rebellious, Futile Thinking*

**not only** have we become **FOOLS** - but we have . . .

## **as Rom 1:23 says - ESV**

***23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.***

Now **THAT** really shows off our **wisdom** doesn't it ??

**As soon** as **Moses** goes *up the mountain* to hear from God

we make a **Golden Calf** & start dancing around it **naked** (Exo 32)

God **created us** with the **Capacity** to know Him -

Then he **Proclaims Himself** to us in all of creation

**& instead** of *Honoring Him - & Giving Thanks* to Him

we become **futile** *in our thinking*

our *foolish hearts become* **darkened**

& we begin **dancing around** some **Golden Calf** of this World

**& we exchange** the Glory of the *Immortal God*

for **images** of *this world* - & **the Lust** therein

**Unbelief** refuses to worship God for Who He is

**& instead** reduces God to something we want,  
or something we can control

& If we **would be honest** with ourselves for **ONE second**  
we would agree with God's **WORD**

**WE DESERVE GOD'S JUDGMENT ! (we are without excuse)**

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### **Rom 1:24 - ESV**

**24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to  
impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,**

We are **talking about people** who have **REFUSED**  
to **Believe** in God - & in His **Gospel**

**Those who** (in their Sin Nature)  
have **SUPPRESSED** the Truth that **can be known** of God

This is the 1<sup>st</sup> of **THREE** times we find the words  
**Therefore** - "**God gave them up**"

**When** man **continually rejects** God's Truth - **at some point**  
**THEREFORE** - **God gives them up**

He **Abandons them** to their own **sinful choices**

### **A.T. Robertson - Word pictures in the New Testament**

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## A.T. Robertson - Word pictures in the New Testament

*"These people had already willfully deserted God, Who merely left them to their own self-determination and self-destruction, part of the price of man's moral freedom. . . Three times Paul uses [this word] here, not three stages in the giving over, but a repetition of the same withdrawal. The words sound to us like clods on the coffin as God leaves men to work their own wicked will."*

The Wrath of God described here;

is God allowing man to decline into his sin,  
by his own choice, even into the pit of hell

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WHY ? - What would cause God to give us over to our own sin ?

### Rom 1:25 - ESV

*25 because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.*

Guys - God WILL allow you - to Exchange His Truth  
for the Lie of this world, or even for the Lie of the devil

He will allow us to worship & serve

the things of this world, & our flesh,  
rather than the Creator - *Who is blessed forever*

& if we, in our rebellion, demand to make that exchange  
(of God's Truth for Sin's Lie)

then God will ultimately allow the consequences of Our Choices  
to become His Wrath upon our Sin

Which is what we find - as we continue

## **Rom 1:26 - ESV**

***26 For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. . .***

### **For WHAT Reason ??**

- 1) **v.18** - In **ungodliness** & unrighteousness  
we have **Suppressed** (held down) the Truth
- 2) **v.19-21** - even tho God has made Himself **Known** to us  
we refused to **Honor** Him, or give **Thanks** to Him  
& we became **Futile** in our Thinking & **Foolish** in our Hearts
- 3) **v.22** - By claiming to be **wise** we became **fools**
- 4) **& v.23** - We **exchanged** the glory of the **Immortal God**  
for **Images** of man & beast . . .

***FOR THIS REASON . . .***

## **again - Rom 1:26 - ESV**

***26 For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions.  
For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are  
contrary to nature;  
27 and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women  
and were consumed with passion for one another, men  
committing shameless acts with men and receiving in  
themselves the due penalty for their error.***

Now - **Why** - in describing the **depths** of man's **depravity**,  
**does Paul** turn first - to **homosexuality**?

**Probably** because - **This sin was all around him** (**NOT** a new sin)

Greek culture **encouraged** homosexual love

1 "**mark**" of a "**High Society Greek**" - was open homosexuality

**14** of the first **15** Emperors of Rome were homosexuals

**& ALSO because - homosexuality is a perfect example**  
of How **Man's Sin** Corrupts **God's Intended Design**

Just as **Hate & Murder** are a *Corruption*  
of *God's Design* of **Love & Forgiveness**.

***The Bible clearly states***

**Homosexuality** is a *Corruption* of God's Design  
for a **man & woman sexually**

Guys - **The Bible** says simply - **Homosexuality is a sin**

From a **Biblical Perspective**  
for a **Christian** to accept **Homosexuality** as an ***alternative lifestyle***

then they must **also accept** **Drunkenness**, **Adultery**, **Theft** & **Murder**  
as "***alternative lifestyles***"

**PLEASE HEAR ME** - God is **NOT** "out to get Homosexuals"  
**God** is "out to get sin"

The **good news** is – since **it is a sin**, it can be **overcome** in Christ

**1Cor 6:9-11 - NLT**

***9 . . . Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality,***

***10 or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God.***

***11 Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.***

ALL believers were Dead in Sin  
Before they were Cleansed by Faith in Christ

& many of us were once in Sexual Sin, Worshipped Idols,  
Committed Adultery - Were Thieves - Were Greedy -  
Were Drunkards, Were Abusive, & Were Cheaters

But to get into Heaven - those sins must be Cleansed  
By Calling on the Name of the Lord Jesus - &  
By Submitting to the Spirit of God

So - it's True - Homosexuality is sin  
& it's damage - both emotional & physical - is **well documented**

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& so we've got to deal with that last **OMINOUS** statement in V.27

### Rom 1:27 (END)

*. . . men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.*

Are there Emotional & Physical Consequences  
to the sin of Homosexuality - **YES!**

**But** – Is God **punishing** homosexuals ???

If an **alcoholic** dies from **liver** failure – *is God punishing him?*

If a **drug addict** dies from an **over dose** – *is God punishing him?*

If you **destroy** your marriage thru **adultery** - *is God punishing you?*

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Guys - There are consequences to sin

& if we Deliberately CHOOSE to CONTINUE in our Sin  
Then God will **GIVE US OVER** to the Consequences of that sin

The Consequences - Which ultimately end - in Death

### Jas 1:14-15 - NLT

*14 Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away.*

*15 These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.*

Death is the Ultimate Consequence of - ALL SIN !

& if you or I Choose a life of sin - in Rebellion to God  
there will be consequences - that Ultimately will end in Death

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Now - Paul is going to end this difficult Passage  
with the WORST of all SINS

The Sins of The Debased Mind

In V.24 - God gave up the ungodly to "Physical Impurity"

In V.26 - God gave up the ungodly to "Shameful Passions"

In V.28 - God gives up the ungodly to "A Debased Mind"

& notice - it's NOT the Sexual Sins  
that end this difficult text on The Wrath of God

it is the sins of a Debased Mind

## **Rom 1:28 - ESV**

***28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.***

**THEY** - are those who have **Refused** to Acknowledge God

& instead have "**taken hold of**" & "**become slave to**"  
their own sin nature

But **notice** please - This **upcoming List** is Broad & All-Encompassing

**If you can't** see your PERSONAL SIN NATURE in this list  
then **you** may **not be able** to see your need FOR A SAVIOR

This **coming list** - of the worst sins against God - **applies to ALL** of us  
***"ALL have sinned, and fall short of the Glory of God"*** (Rom 3.23)

**Rom 1:29-32 - ESV** → →

## **Rom 1:29-32 - ESV**

**29 They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Though they know God's decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.**

**PLEASE** - See **yourself** in that List  
because it is **your only hope** - to **see your need** - for a **Savior**

God **Help** us - God **Protect** us - God **Save** us  
**from** our own sin nature

We must **first see** - we are **Justly Deserving** God's **Judgment**  
**Before** we will **run into the arms** of a **Forgiving Savior**

As Paul says in **Rom 7:24-25 - NLT**

**24 Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death?  
25 Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. . .**

**The Answer** - The Only **True** Answer  
is **IN Jesus Christ our Lord** - & in Him **ALONE**

**Just as** the **Vs's following** these say

## **Rom 8:1-2 - NLT**

***1 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.***

***2 And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death.***

Guys - **We ARE SINNERS** - Once destined for Death

But for those who belong to Jesus Christ

The **Power** of the Life-Giving Spirit has freed you from the **power** of sin that leads to death

So there is ONLY ONE Question

There's Only One **question** today

& Only One **question** on that day - that you meet your Creator

***DO YOU BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST ??***

**Are you His ?**

Have your **sins** been forgiven - by His **Righteousness** ?

Has the **Power of Jesus Christ** living in you -

**Freed** you from the **power of sin** that leads to Death

If you have **not** been **SET FREE** from Sin & Death

by putting your **Faith** in Jesus Christ Alone

**PLEASE** - don't leave here

until you **Receive Christ** as your Savior

**Let's Pray**