

The Solid Rock on Which We Stand: “Denial and Defiance of God”

Romans 1:18-32

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The Big Idea:

When mankind willfully denies and defies God, it is always to their destruction. (Romans 1:18-32)

Man’s Denial and Defiance of God

1. People have foolishly rejected God by their own free will and are therefore without excuse when God’s wrath comes upon them. (Romans 1:18-23)

A. People have rejected God’s external revelation of Himself in creation. (Romans 1:18-20)

B. People have rejected God’s internal revelation of Himself in their conscience. (Romans 1:21-23)

2. God has sovereignly turned people over to the consequences of their sinful will and will justly unleash His wrath. (Romans 1:24-32)

A. People’s sinful will resulted in darkened thinking. (Romans 1:24-25, 28)

B. People’s sinful will resulted in depraved living. (Romans 1:24-27, 29-32)

The Big Step(s):

Read Colossians 3:1-17 and commit to setting your mind on the things of Jesus by being in His Word, putting to death earthly and sinful thoughts and actions, and getting real with God’s people in making these commitments.

October 4, 2026

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Romans 1:18-32 (study guide)

Read Romans 1:18-32

1. **The "Excuse" Factor:** Based on Romans 1:20, why does Paul say humanity is "without excuse"? How does the complexity of DNA and the human cell support this claim?
2. **Identifying Modern Idols:** If idolatry is defined as placing anything above time in prayer, the Word, or worship, what are the most common idols in contemporary culture?
3. **The Nature of Sin:** Paul notes that while all sin is worthy of death, not all sins have equal consequences in this life. How does this impact our understanding of the "hot-button" sins mentioned in the text?
4. **Responding in Love:** How can a believer "call sin what it is" regarding the LGBTQ+ community or atheists while still demonstrating the "love of Christ without discrimination"?
5. **The Goal of "Death Valley":** Why is it necessary to understand the "depths of Death Valley" (the heinousness of sin) before fully appreciating the Gospel?
6. **The Mind-Body Connection:** Paul addresses how people *think* before he addresses how they *live*. How does Colossians 3 provide a "cure" for the "debased mind" described in Romans?