

Romans 1:18-25 God's Wrath Against "Wise" Fools

When people choose to deny God and His Truth, He responds with wrath. What is the wrath of God and how does God respond to man when he rejects Him?

Topic- Creation

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"the wrath of God"

The "wrath of God" is God's fixed disposition towards evil, in response to His divine nature.

The opposite of "wrath" is not "love," but neutrality.

-You cannot have love without wrath.

-To not have wrath towards that which attacks what you love is no love at all.

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"is revealed from heaven"

Revealed = Present Tense

"against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men"

-Ungodliness = Sins against God

-Unrighteousness = Sins against man

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"who suppress the truth in unrighteousness"

Suppress = katechō(κατέχω); to hold back, hold down, detain, restrain, suppress

-Lit. Down/Against (kata) + Hold (Echō)

-Present Active verb

Men actively choose to suppress their knowledge of God.

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"what may be known of God"

This is not everything there is to know about, but there are definitely things that can be known, which God intentionally has made known, yet they suppress it anyway.

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“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen”

-“For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen”(KJV)

-”from the creation” ≈ “of creation” or “belonging to creation”

“Though God is invisible Himself, His existence and power are made manifest (visible) by looking at His creation.”

Epistemology = “the study of knowledge”

-General Revelation vs Special Revelation

-General Revelation: God makes Himself known to all people through creation and conscience

-Special Revelation: God makes Himself known clearly and specifically through His Word and through Jesus Christ

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“so that they are without excuse”

Psalm 8:3-4 — When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?

Psalm 19:1-2 — The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge.

There is no excuse to not believe in God

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*Eternity In Their Hearts

*Pachucuti, the Incas, machu picchu, Inti & Viracocha

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“although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God”

This speaks of them knowing of His existence, yet not a saving faith in Him.

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“nor were thankful”

Being unthankful is a sin.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 — in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

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“became futile in their thoughts,
and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

Matthew 6:23 — ...If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

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“Professing to be wise, they became fools”

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“changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.”

Exodus 32:3-4 — So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, “This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!”

-Exodus 32:5 — So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, “Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD.”

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“Therefore God also gave them up”

-26 “For this reason God gave them up”

-28 “God gave them over” (same in Greek)

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“who exchanged the truth of God for the lie”

What is truth?

-John 14:6 — Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

-John 17:17 — “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

-John 1:1 & 14 — In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...

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What is “the lie”?

Genesis 2:9 — And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 2:16-17 — And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

-Lit. “Dying you shall die”

Psalms 101:4 — A perverse heart shall depart from me; I will not know wickedness.

Genesis 3:1 — Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?”

-V4 — Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.

-V5 — “For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

By eating of the tree, Adam and Eve would now have the “knowledge” of Good & Evil, thus being able to declare for themselves what “Good & Evil” are and not have to depend on God's Word.

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Mankind will come up with any alternative to worshipping and serving the Creator, no matter how foolish it is.

Isaiah 44:14-17 — He cuts down cedars for himself... He burns half of it in the fire; With this half he eats meat; He roasts a roast, and is satisfied. He even warms himself and says, “Ah! I am warm, I have seen the fire.” And the rest of it he makes into a god, His carved image. He falls down before it and worships it, Prays to it and says, “Deliver me, for you are my god!”

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*The Lie by Ken Ham

*Jason Lisle Slide

*Mousetrap- law of irreducible complexity

*Simple Cell- "A single 'simple' cell contains thousands of working parts, carrying out thousands of coordinated functions"

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"God gave them up"

Genesis 20:6 — ...For I also withheld you from sinning against Me; therefore I did not let you touch her."

1 Samuel 25:32–34 — Then David said... "For indeed, as the LORD God of Israel lives, who has kept me back from hurting you..."

Psalms 19:13 — Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;

Matthew 6:13 — And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.

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*Bradford-"Be certain that God's Word is true, though all the world say the contrary."

*Bradford-"There, but for the grace of God, goes John Bradford."

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The wrath of God is sometimes merely giving us what we desire.

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"they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful"

Psalms 107:1 — Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

-Psalm 100:4 — Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

-1 Thessalonians 5:18 — in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.