

Romans 1:24-32

Righteousness Revealed In Condemnation 1:24-32

Verse 24

Therefore – Refers specifically to man's response to God in verses 21-23.

God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts – This is a description of how God's wrath is presently being revealed. God turns people over to the sin they so desire.

To impurity – Uncleaness in both in a physical sense and a moral sense. The impurity of lustful living.

Their bodies...dishonored – In the sense of all types of immorality; adultery, fornication, harlotry and all sexual perversions.

Verse 25

The truth - - - *the lie* - This verse reflects verse 23.

The truth = The glory of the incorruptible God, the Creator.

The lie = The image mankind has traded for God, the creature.

Amen – Let it be!

Verse 26

For this reason – Because man exchanged *the truth* for *the lie*.

God gave them over to degrading passions – The Greek word translated 'passions' is '*pathos*' meaning the diseased condition out of which lusts spring.

For their women – The word for 'woman' is not the normal word used in the New Testament. The word used here literally means '*female*' and the emphasis is on sexual distinction.

Exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural - Literally, they exchanged the natural use of their bodies for that which is contrary to nature. Paul is specifically speaking of the sexual perversion of homosexuality.

Verse 27

In the same way also the men – As was the case with the word '*woman*' the word for '*man*' here is not the normal word. This word also points to sexual distinction.

Abandoned the natural function of the woman – Paul is speaking of the sexual relationship between man and woman as designed by God in Genesis 2:23-24.

And burned in their desire toward one another - *They* became inflamed or burned up with their desires. The word used

here for '*desire*' only occurs here in the New Testament. It means an 'eager longing' or 'lustful appetite'.

Men with men – The homosexual 'theologian' tries to explain away this verse by saying it means heterosexual men with heterosexual men not homosexual men with homosexual men. However, the argument here is God's natural created order not that it is 'natural' for homosexuals to be together.

Committing indecent acts – They violate the 'natural' function of sexuality.

Receiving...the due penalty – God's wrath allows sin to run its course. Aids, which is brought about by sexual sin, is an example.

Verse 28

As they did not see fit to acknowledge...God gave them over to a depraved mind - There is a play on words in the Greek text.

They did not approve (*dokimazo*) God so God gave them over to an unapproved (*adokimon*) or worthless mind.

The result of a depraved mind – They do those things which are not proper.

Verses 29-31

Being filled with – Paul now lists 20 (22) vices that arise from God giving people over to a depraved mind.

These are grouped in three divisions:

- 1 *Being filled with* – 4 or 5
- 2 *Full of* – 5
- 3 *They are* – 12 or 13

All of these vices result from not acknowledging God.

Verse 32

Although they know – Paul echoes verse 19 and 21.

The ordinance of God - Righteous judgment, or that which has been deemed to be right. Here it may be referring to man's conscience.

Worthy of death – In every society sin, or breaking the law, carries a penalty. "*The wages of sin is death...*" Romans 6:23

They do the same...and give hearty approval – Not only do they do those things that they know in their consciences are wrong, they actively promote those vices to others.