

ROMANS' ROAD – No Excuses

January 13-14, 2023

Romans 1:18-20 (NIV) – “The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities – His eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse”.

“Wrath is the holy revulsion of God’s being against that which is the contradiction of His holiness” – *John Murray*

“**wrath**” = Greek *orge* – “impulse”; HELPS word study - “settled anger rising up from fixed opposition”; “proceeds from an internal disposition which steadfastly opposes someone or something”

Romans 1:16-17 (NIV) – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed – a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: ‘The righteous will live by faith’”.

Romans 1:21-23 (NIV) – “For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles”.

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“Will you kindly notice that, according to my text, knowledge is of no use if it does not lead to holy practice? ‘They knew God’. It was no good to them to know God, for ‘they glorified Him not as God’. So, my theological friend over there, who knows so much that he can split hairs over doctrines, it does not matter what you think, or what you know, unless it leads you to glorify God, and to be thankful” – **Charles Spurgeon**

Romans 1:23 (MSG) - “They traded the glory of God who holds the whole world in His hands for cheap figurines you can buy at any roadside stand”.

“**image**” = Greek *eikon* – “image, statue, or representation”

“The fact is once a man rejects the truth of God in Jesus, he will fall for anything foolish, and trust far more feeble and fanciful systems than what he rejects from God” – **David Guzik**

Romans 1:24-27 (NIV) – “Therefore, God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator – who is forever praised. Amen. Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. In the same way, the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error”.

Romans 1:24 (NLT) - “So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other’s bodies”.

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Romans 1:26-27a (MSG) – “Worse followed. Refusing to know God, they soon didn’t know how to be human either – women didn’t know how to be women, men didn’t know how to be men. Sexually confused, they abused and defiled one another, women with women, men with men – all lust, no love”.

“It’s hard to hear the voice of God when you’ve already decided what you want Him to say” – ***Joanna Beck Ministries***

Romans 1:28-32 (NIV) – “Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed, and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant, and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. Although they know God’s righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them”.

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Romans 1:32 (MSG) - “And it’s not as if they don’t know better. They know perfectly well they’re spitting in God’s face. And they don’t care – worse, they hand out prizes to those who do the worst things best!”