



Go for God!

The Book of ROMANS

Romans Ch. 1:18-32

“THE DEVIL-UTION OF MANKIND!”

> FOUR STEPS TO THE DEVIL-UTION OF MANKIND:

~ **STEP #1 - CONSCIOUS REBELLION! (v18-19)**

~ **STEP #2 - CREATION REJECTION! (v20)**

~ **STEP #3 - CRANIAL CORRUPTION! (v21-23)**

~ **STEP #4 - CARNAL CONTAMINATION! (v24-32)**

~ **STEP #1 - CONSCIOUS REBELLION! (v18-19)**

Pride is at the heart of mankind's conscious rebellion. An unwillingness to admit that he's wrong, that he has sin in his heart, mind, soul and spirit.

We're not basically good, but rather evil – Jeremiah 17:9-10- *"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings."*

We need help, a transformation. This is why Jesus said, *"You must be born again"* (John 3:7).

> Without Christ's salvation we'll face God's wrath from heaven due to our ungodliness - that is our lack of reverence for, devotion to, and worship of the true God, our Creator; this would include our defiance of the first four commandments of the *Ten Commandments* (Ex. 20).

- Observe:

Commandment #1- *You shall have no other gods before me*

Commandment #2- *You shall not make for yourself a carved image and bow before it*

Commandment #3- *You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain*

Commandment #4- *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy*

> God's wrath will come against us because of our unrighteousness.

Unrighteousness coincides with the last six commandments

- Observe:

Commandment #5- *Honor your father and mother*

Commandment #6- *You shall not murder*

Commandment #7- *You shall not commit adultery*

Commandment #8- *You shall not steal*

Commandment #9- *You shall not bear false witness*

Commandment #10- *You shall not covet*

> We are told that unrighteous men will suppress the truth of godliness and righteousness. Jesus explains this concept in John 3:16-21 - *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.* ¹⁷ *For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*

¹⁸ *“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.* ¹⁹ *And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.* ²⁰ *For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.* ²¹ *But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”*

- In verse 19 we’re given two infallible proofs of God:

- (1) *What is known of God is manifest in us (via the spirit of life & conscience);*
- (2) *God has shown it to us (through creation).*

- John the beloved, reveals this reality in John 1:3-5 - *All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*

- And John 1:9-13 - *That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

- In a Time magazine article regarding the brain, they said the following concerning the existence of the conscience, “After more than a century of looking for it, brain researchers have long since concluded that there is no conceivable place for such a self to be located in the physical brain, and that it simply doesn’t exist . . . It may be that scientists will eventually have to acknowledge the existence of something beyond their ken-something that might be described as the SOUL.”

- Jesus said in John 3:36 - *He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.*

~ STEP #2 - CREATION REJECTION! (v20)

“Since the creation”- Dr. Mark Eastman writes in his book *So You Want Evidence*, “The question of the origin of life has been debated by philosophers, theologians, scientists for thousands of years and is at the very core of the debate between the materialists and the creationists. Creationists see the creation of life as a powerful, visible, manifestation of an awesome DESIGNER, creator, God. To the

creationist, life is the product of the greatest chemist, biologist, mathematician and engineer in or out of the universe! To the materialist (atheist), life is viewed as an incredibly lucky result of billions of years and countless violations of the laws of nature acting on non-living matter. As some have put it, life is “the fortuitous occurrence of accidental circumstances.””

> Nobel Laureate Francis Crick, PhD, writes, “An honest man, armed with all the knowledge available to us now, could only state that in some sense, the origin of life appears at the moment to be almost a miracle, so many are the conditions which would have had to have been satisfied to get it going.”

> Regarding the orderly state of the universe, evolutionist and physicist H. J. Lipson wrote, “I think however that we must go further than this and admit that the only accepted explanation is creation. I know that this is anathema to physicists, as indeed it is to me, but we must not reject a theory that we do not like if the experimental evidence supports it.”

> Bible scholar, John MacArthur solidifies our faith in God our creator when writes about the magnitude and perfection of creation, “The earth is 25,000 miles in circumference weighs 6 septillion, 588 sextillion tons, and hangs unsupported in space. It spins at 1000 miles per hour with absolute precision and careens through space around the sun at the speed of 1000 miles per minute in an orbit 580 million miles long.” Psalm 19:1 states, *The heavens declare the GLORY of God; and the firmament shows his handiwork.*

> Scientific observation of the DNA defines that each species of animal has its own particular code; there are no transitional forms, no missing links. In Genesis 1:21 it says that each species was made “according to their kind.”

- Listen to Dr. John Medina, a genetic engineer, in a statement entitled:
The Miraculous Human Body

The average human heart pumps over 1,000 gallons a day, over 55 million gallons in a lifetime. This is enough to fill 13 super tankers. It never sleeps, beating 2.5 billion times in a lifetime.

The lungs contain 1,000 miles of capillaries. The process of exchanging oxygen for carbon dioxide is so complicated that "it is more difficult to exchange O for CO than for a man shot out of a cannon to carve the Lord's Prayer on the head of a pin as he passes by."

DNA contains about 2,000 genes per chromosome—1.8 meters of DNA are folded into each cell nucleus. A nucleus is 6 microns long. This is like putting 30 miles of fishing line into a cherry pit. And it isn't simply stuffed in. It is folded in. If folded one way, the cell becomes a skin cell. If another way, a liver cell, and so forth. To write out the information in one cell would take 300 volumes, each volume 500

pages thick. The human body contains enough DNA that if it were stretched out, it would circle the sun 260 times.

The body uses energy efficiently. If an average adult rides a bike for 1 hour at 10 mph, it uses the amount of energy contained in 3 ounces of carbohydrate. If a car were this efficient with gasoline, it would get 900 miles to the gallon.

- Let us embrace Psalm 139:14 - *I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my SOUL knows right well. Remember, lies and theories are perpetrated to suppress the truth of God because of man's unrighteousness!*

~ STEP #3 - CRANIAL CORRUPTION! (v21-23)

Mankind professes to be wise, yet they became fools! False religions abound throughout our world; the Hindus worship over 330 million gods, Islam wants to take over the world and destroy the infidels, Buddhism, New Age thought, Humanism, and many others have led our world into the worship of nature, statues (idols), individuals (Caesar is lord, Emperor worship in Japan, Germany's super race, the future antichrist etc.), the stars (astrology), extra-terrestrials, sex, money, power, fame, AI, etc.

- What does Jesus say? "*I am the way, the TRUTH, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*" (Jn. 14:6).

- Matt 24:4-6 - *And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.*

~ STEP #4 - CARNAL CONTAMINATION! (v24-32)

- (v24) God gave them over – One study bible shares, "When men consistently abandon God, He will abandon them (cf. Jdg 10:13; 2Ch 15:2; 24:20; Ps 81:11, 12; Hos 4:17; Mt 15:14; Ac 7:38–42; 14:16).

He accomplishes this 1) indirectly and immediately, by removing His restraint and allowing their sin to run its inevitable course, and 2) directly and eventually, by specific acts of divine judgment and punishment."

- (v25) who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator – Worshiping and serving the creature of humanism, heathenism, and havoc!

- (v26) God gave them over to vile passions or shameful lusts - Identified in vv. 26, 27 as homosexuality, a sin roundly condemned in Scripture (Ge 19; Lev 18:22; 1Co 6:9–11; cf. Gal 5:19–21; Eph 5:3–5; 1Ti 1:9, 10; Jude 7).

- women - Rather than the normal Gr. term for women, this is a general word for female. Paul mentions women first to show the extent of debauchery under the wrath of abandonment, because in most cultures' women are the last to be affected by moral collapse.

- From the judgment upon the people of Noah's day (Genesis 6; Matthew 24:36-44), to Sodom & Gomorrah (Genesis 19; Luke 17:22-30), to our day, the lust for sin is evident, prevalent and destructive (physically, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually).

- Observe the "sin factor" in verses - v28-32:

Definition

Antonym

Debased mind – perverted, corrupt, evil / *Pure mind*

Unrighteousness – evil, wicked, rebellious / *Righteousness*

Wickedness – vileness, immorality, crime oriented / *Good, virtue, moral*

Covetousness – greed, materialistic, idolatrous / *Sharing, giving*

Maliciousness – hatred, malignity, viciousness / *Kindness, goodness, loving*

Envy – bitterness, jealousy, resentment / *Caring, friendly, encouraging*

Murder – bloodshed, assassination, death / *Peacemaker, life-giver, loving*

Strife – animosity, dissention, disunity / *Unifier, agreement, harmony*

Deceit – dishonesty, fraud, treachery / *Honesty, forthrightness, truthfulness*

Evil mindedness – hurtful, criminal, spiteful / *Purity, thoughtful, goodness*

Whisperers – gossip, rumors, meddler / *Encourager, caring, without evil intent*

Backbiters - adversary, antagonistic, traitor / *Betterment, blessing, healing*

Haters of God – rebellious, blasphemous, lawless / *Love, follower, learner*

Violent – hurtful, hateful, out of control / *Self-control, caring, peaceful*

Proud – full of self, narcissistic, arrogant / *Humble, meek, learning*

Boasters – blowhard, braggadocio, egotist / *Gracious speech, others, truthful*

Inventors of evil things – bad, corrupt, immoral / *Good, pure, helpful*

Disobedient to parents – Rebellious, dishonoring, hurtful / *Obedient, honor, respect*

Undiscerning – without care, reckless, enticed / *Smart, insight, wisdom*

Untrustworthy – dishonest, corrupt, deceptive / loyal, trustworthy, honest

Unloving – self-centered, worldly, cruel / Loving, others, compassionate

Unforgiving - vengeful, bitter, mean / Forgiving, reconciler, mending

Unmerciful – cruel, unkind, vicious / Mercy, grace, love, forgiving

- (v32) *who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.*

- How does Jesus deal with our sin? Turn to John 8:1-12.