

## No More Excuses

October 1, 2017

### I God's Wrath

A) **SLIDE Romans 1:18 (NIV)** <sup>18</sup> The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness,

- 1) What truth? That God exists and has made His presence plain to all people for all time in all places
- 2) That Jesus is THE Way, Truth, and Life

B) **SLIDE** How do they suppress the truth?

- 1) Evolution
  - a) Negates creation
  - b) Thus, negates the need for a Creator
  - c) Thus, man is in charge of everything
  - d) So, man decides what is right and what is wrong
  - e) Morals change as we change
- 2) Deception/Lies
  - a) There is no sin
  - b) We have a right to any behavior
  - c) Any restrictions of those rights are racist, homophobic, sexist
- 3) Tradition/Culture over Truth
  - a) Like the Pharisees, some value tradition over truth
  - b) The experts argue that culture determines the truth so the Bible cannot be trusted
  - c) Popular opinion trumps God's opinion
  - d) Speculation becomes truth
- 4) Political Correctness
- 5) The wickedness and godlessness suppresses the truth so we no longer look to God; instead, we blame Him
- 6) We no longer seek Him; instead, we seek those who suppress the truth

## II **SLIDE** Why is God angry?

### A) Because we have no excuse

- 1) <sup>19</sup> since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.
- 2) Paul is very clear: what can be known about God has been made plain to all mankind
- 3) In saying "what may be known," Paul is also telling that there are many things about God which cannot and will not be known
- 4) Thus, our need for faith and humility and willing submission
- 5) **SLIDE** We are without excuse for our sinful behavior because God has made Himself known
- 6) Also, God's wrath is revealed on those who suppress this truth by their wickedness, godlessness, false intelligence, and idolatry
- 7) **Exodus 20:2, 7, 16 (NIV)** <sup>2</sup> "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>7</sup> "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. <sup>16</sup> "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
- 8) No one - absolutely no one - comes to the knowledge of God through his or her own efforts
- 9) God reveals Himself through all of creation; we only need to look
- 10) Plagiarism, stealing,

### B) **SLIDE** <sup>20</sup> 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 men are without excuse.

- 1) In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth in such a way as to reveal Himself to us
- 2) We are surrounded by "invisible qualities" such as
  - a) Love
  - b) Truth
  - c) Honesty
  - d) Compassion

- e) Sorrow
- 3) How do we know they exist when we cannot see them?
- 4) We know they exist because we can see their effects all around us
- 5) So, how do we clearly see God's invisible qualities? We simply look around
- C) **SLIDE** Invisible qualities
  - 1) Eternal power
    - a) Hurricanes, fires, and wind
    - b) The power contained in an atom
    - c) The power to calm a storm or to make the sun go backwards  
**(Isaiah 38:8)**
    - d) The power to raise a mountain out of the sea is the same power that forms a hummingbird
    - e) The power that keeps the planets in their places, that continues to expand the universe, that determines the seasons, and that determines the color of my hair
    - f) **Luke 21:25-26 (NIV)** [Jesus said,] <sup>25</sup> "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. <sup>26</sup> Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.
  - 2) Divine nature
    - a) Our universe is too orderly to have happened haphazardly
    - b) Science touts the "big bang" theory, but science cannot explain where the stuff that went bang originated nor can they cannot explain why it went "bang"
    - c) History is filled with what people call coincidences that are really God incidences
      - i) Target
        - Caris Lockwood, a delivery nurse
        - Tanya St. Preux, a pregnant mother
        - Then just happened to cross paths in Target

ii) Running out of money at Grand Canyon

iii) Joseph Figlock - 1930's

- Walked down a street when a baby fell out of a high window
- Baby fell on Figlock - both were unhurt
- One year later, Figlock was walking down the same street
- The same baby fell out of the same window and hit Figlock again - neither were hurt

d) God's divine nature gives us justice, compassion, unconditional love, forgiveness, restoration, rebirth, hope, peace,

e) We can see and witness all of these through the creation around us

i) Unconditional love - meet my dog Frazier

ii) Forgiveness - meet my dog Frazier

iii) Restoration - look at a desert when water is added

iv) Rebirth - look at Yellowstone after a fire

v) Peace - sit in the Rockies at the side of a mountain lake or sit in my back yard

f) Evolution cannot explain why leaves change colors

g) Evolution cannot explain love or any emotion

h) Science cannot explain the excitement of holding hands with the one you love

i) Evolution cannot explain me

j) How did any animal survive long enough to evolve?

k) If apes evolved into man then why do we still have apes?

l) Why do we not see species in the midst of evolving?

m) Napoleon, on a warship in the Mediterranean on a star-lit night, passed a group of his officers who were mocking at the idea of a God. He stopped, and sweeping his hand toward the stars, said, "Gentlemen, you must get rid of those first!"

**Romans Verse-by-Verse.**

3) Creativity

4) Sense of Beauty

- 5) His gentleness
- 6) His Sacrifice
- 7) His attention to detail

D) **SLIDE Romans 1:20 (NIV)** <sup>20</sup> 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 men are without excuse.

- 1) The Sunday we prayed for each other - could you feel the presence of our invisible God?
- 2) Did you feel led to pray or to ask for prayer?
- 3) Did you feel His love, gentleness, and love
- 4) Last week, did you sense the Spirit?
- 5) Did you think Matt was speaking his mind or God's mind?

E) No one has an excuse. NO ONE

- 1) Iceland
- 2) 4<sup>th</sup> happiest country in the world
- 3) literacy rate of 99%
- 4) Banned strip clubs in 2010 because they are ultra-feminist
- 5) There is virtually no violent crime
- 6) Has developed a cure for Down Syndrome: abortion