

Rom 1: 21-32

"Pagan Regression &  
Only Hope for Wicked"



Sun. Night  
8-20-2023

(P.1)

## 1. Introduction

a. Chap 1 review of human history  
in religion & sexual behavior

b. God's wrath against ungodly (1:18)

c. Humans without excuse (~~1:18~~) (1:20)

- why without excuse?

- because humans knew God (~~1:18~~) (1:21)

\* humans were not thankful

\* became vain in their thoughts

\* human foolish hearts darkened

d. Four downward into paganism

## 2. Willful Blindness

a. Deliberate rejection

b. Wicked beliefs

c. Immoral behavior

d. God's attitude toward sin

has not changed

- God angry at wicked every day

- but God gives mercy at the cross

## 3. Rejection of God

a. Humans knew God (1:19-20)

- God's knowledge revealed

\* Creation of physical world

\* God's invisible qualities

clearly seen

x General revelation

x God's eternal power & Godhead

b. Every religion & civilization

always knew of "higher power"

greater than humans

## 2c. Humans do not glorify God <sup>(2)</sup>

- they redirected their worship to false gods or human self
  - \* their power
  - \* their love of money
  - \* human corruption
  - \* immoral living
- In 1:14 the Word became flesh, lived among us, & we saw His glory
- willful turning from God

## 3. Humans replace God

### a. corruption of human reasoning

- wicked imaginations
  - \* perverse speculations
- even Christians can go astray in their thinking (carnal Christian)

### b. Foolish hearts become ~~foolish~~ dark

- futile thinking
- "There is no God" (Ps 14:1, 53:1)

### c. Proud hearts

- humans saying they are wise
- they became fools
- filling their empty hearts with something else
- moral bankruptcy
  - \* 1 Cor 1:18-22
    - x Where is the wise?
    - x Where is the rhetoric of this age?
    - x Where are signs for humans?

### d. Humans became fools

- even while saying they are wise
- changing God's glory into an image
- invented their own gods

## 4. Relinquishing God

### a. Humans gave up God

- they threw away God

### b. God gave them up to

- uncleanness
- lusts of their hearts
- to dishonor their bodies

### c. God gave humans free will to choose

- God respects their choices

Sun. Night  
8-20-2023  
P. 3



4c (cont): But choices bring consequences

- positive or negative consequences  
- (1 Cor 6:9-10) such will not inherit the kingdom of God

- 1 Cor 6:11 And such were some of you (in the past)

\* positive change

5. Religious Debauchery

a. Sexual promiscuity goes with religious debauchery

- dishonor their bodies among themselves

\* fornication

\* adultery

\* ~~best~~ bestiality

\* pedophilia

\* homosexuality (men with men)

\* lesbianism (women with women)

- people leaving the natural use of their body

b. Only Hope for the Wicked

a. God's summation: For all have sinned & fall short of the glory of God (Rom 3:23)

b. But God gives new hope

- Being justified freely by God's grace in Christ Jesus (Rom 3:24)

c. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith (Rom 3:28)