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Romans

...undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;...
Romans 1:31

Today we see five more areas where depraved man falls short of God's glory and displays it in enmity against Him and His principles. The first concerns the "undiscerning." The Greek word is *asynetous*. The "a" is a negative and is followed by *synetos* meaning "knowing" and thus it is speaking of people without discernment. There is morally right and there is morally wrong, but there are those who can't tell the difference between the two. They are foolish in their decisions and confused in their thought processes.

All of this stems from an inability or a refusal to think clearly about the nature of God. When this occurs, everything else becomes muddled and confused as well. A perfect example of such mentally miniscule thinking concerns the issue of abortion. What is clearly wrong in the taking of a human life is rationalized away in order to justify the unjustifiable. At the same time, the protection of animals or capital criminals is elevated to the highest importance. This confused thinking permeates the social left in the world.

After this, Paul mentions the "untrustworthy." The Greek word is *asynthetous*. As you can see it is an alliteration of the first word – *asynetous* / *asynthetous*. Like the first word "a" is a negative and the word *syntithemoui* describes the making of a covenant. This alliteration by Paul is a literary style known as a *paronomasia*.

This is the use of a word in different senses or the use of words similar in sound to achieve a specific effect such as humor or a dual meaning.

In this use by Paul, he shows that there is not only a lack of discernment, but there is also a lack of trustworthiness. Because they can't think clearly on moral issues, they also don't act clearly concerning moral responsibilities. Again, we can turn to the social left to see this. Not only is their thinking completely opposed to what is godly, their decisions can't be trusted. Very good examples in the world of "right now" are gun control and health care. The left seizes any and every opportunity it can to take away the very rights of those who could stop the initial reason for the calamity which has arisen. And in the process of doing so, they violate the initial promises that they made concerning the issue in the first place.

There is absolutely no trust in the words or promises of politicians on the left, from the lowest congressman to the US President. The same is true with liberal minded people in all countries and in all vocations. What they speak is of no value because their word is organic and changing. It is an infection of the mind which transfers to every action of the person.

Next to be listed are the "unloving." The word here comes from the concept of a person who lacks natural affection. This again transfers through what is moral to what is political. It points directly to the morally lacking thought process. The "natural affection" Paul is referring to is the bond between a parent and a child. What should be the strongest bond of all is missing when the knowledge of God is rejected. The Bible is replete with passages where children were sacrificed to Molech and causing them to "pass through the fire" such as in 1 Kings 17:16, 17 –

"So they left all the commandments of the Lord their God, made for themselves a molded image and two calves, made a wooden image and worshiped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. And they caused their sons and daughters to pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and soothsaying, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger."

The cultures Paul was exposed to left female children out to die, preferring male babies. Some buried the children alive. Albert Barnes notes that during an earlier period, "In most of the Grecian states, infanticide was not merely permitted, but actually enforced by law. The Spartan lawgiver expressly ordained that every child that was born should be examined by the ancient men of the tribe, and that if found weak or deformed, should be thrown into a deep cavern at the foot of Mount Taygetus."

The modern parallel is of course abortion. The left is rabid in their defense of abortion and any attempt at restricting or eliminating this legalized murder is met with the strongest opposition possible. They have lost any true natural affection and have replaced it with immoral sensuality and licentiousness. This moral depravity fits naturally with the next on the list, those who are "unforgiving."

The Greek word comes from the thought of "no libation." Pouring out a libation to a god was a way of making peace with that god and thus forming a treaty. The idea then is a person who is completely unwilling to make peace; they are implacable. A quote from this week's news says this about the current administration, "What he does is position his political opponents as the enemy. Everything he did today in the debt limit Q&A in his press conference, and even in the setup, was about the enemy." This is the very thought process Paul is describing. "There is no agreement, there is no reconciliation, and there is no felicity. Instead, there is only 'us and them' and we will never cede an inch in our battle of depravity and moral perversity."

The last of today's list speaks of the "unmerciful." In the lack of human affection which leads to a lack of working together through reconciliation, Paul saw the result was a society which was destitute of compassion. In the world around him, the old, the sick, and the infirm were cast out and left to fend for themselves, find a charitable source to maintain them, or to die. The inevitable result of turning away from godly thinking in a society is that compassion flees and only self-gratification and ruthlessness is left. Healthcare which breaks down because it is engineered improperly inevitably leads to rationing and a hierarchy of those who will receive care. It is already taking place in Europe and Canada and it is coming to the United States.

The liberal left is forcing its morally depraved values upon an unsuspecting society. What is heralded as right and compassionate will be seen for what is – immoral and uncaring. The Bible is always vindicated because its Author peers into the heart and soul of man and sees his utterly depraved state moving logically from one twisted state to another.

Life application: Think clearly about moral issues – not as society sees them, but as God sees them. Hold fast to His word and His guidance and flee from the wicked and depraved thinking of those who have lost any moral compass as they drift in the sea of ungodliness.