

Romans 05 – Self-Made in Sin's Image

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Romans 1:18-23

Epilogue: Grace and Faith

- Grace (ἰσ) – Oft translated as Favor in OT (Ge 6:6; Ex 33:13)
 - The Omnipotent reaching down to the Impotent based solely on His will: Essence of favor and thus, grace
- Faith (πίστις) – Trust, belief (Non-empirical) (He 11:1)
 - Foundational concept – absolute certainty; conviction
 - Faith: **response** to God's self-revelation – He comes to us; based in God's immutability (Is 6:37-40; Jo 27:25; Ac 9:36; 11:20)

Epilogue: Thankfulness

- Thankfulness (εὐχαριστέω) – To *reflect* God's grace
 - εὖ – Good: Only God is good (Mt 10:18)
 - χάρις – Grace: Comes only from God
 - τέω – Verb form: Being and exhibiting thankfulness
- Thankfulness is humble attitude acknowledging God's grace as the only basis for goodness (Slave mentality)

Thankfulness reflects God's Grace back to God as source of all goodness and outward to others
This attitude separates Christians who we bless their situation from the Lost who curse their situation

Epilogue: Spiritual Charisma

- Paul wants to share with them God's spiritual charisma (knowledge) to strengthen their faith (Col 3:9-15)
 - πνευματικός - Spiritual: Spirit working through us
 - χάρισμα - Manifestation of God's Spirit: Varies to meet current need; not a gift (δῶρον) nor a fixed power
- Spirit working in us πνευματικός χάρισμα: Basis for living faithfully in the world - His righteousness alone

Contrasting Faithfulness & Sin

- Paul guided by definitions of his words contrasts those who live in faithfulness from God's righteousness vs those who live in ungodliness-unrighteousness in sin
 - Former: Power of God to life - Faithfulness; Charisma
 - Latter: Power of God to judgment - Wrath; just consequences of man rejecting God
 - Latter suppresses the former which reveals their sin (v. 14-5)

Ungodliness of People

- Ungodliness (ἀσέβεια) - Separating one's self from God for fear of judgment due to rejection of His truth
 - Godliness becomes ungodliness moment of sin
 - Rejection of God's morality as basis for life and society
 - Antithesis becomes basis of truth, society and life (LEM)
 - Example: Man/Woman eating of Tree of Knowledge led to fear and separation from God; Cain raised as god (Ge 3:6-15; 4:3)

Unrighteousness of People

- Unrighteousness (ἀδικία) – All thoughts, words and deeds spring from ungodliness: Antithesis of God
 - Violation of inner moral code written inside each person (image of God) apart from any law set: Gentiles (Anomism)
 - Guilt: Gift reveals when God's morality violated (Guilt/Works: Man and Woman sewed fig leaves to cover genitals; sexual aspect of their sin (knowledge))
 - Rejecting God's commandment rejected **all** God's morality
 - Man-Woman violated their purity spiritually then physically
 - Cain conceived in sin (Ge 3:15-16; Ps 51:5)

Unrighteousness Suppresses

- Unrighteousness suppresses (κατέχω) truth: Hold down or restrain (Impotent over the Omnipotent)
 - ἀσέβεια and ἀδικία (Darkness) hate truth (Light) which reveals their morality as being of Lucifer, not of God
 - Cain, rejected by God, *suppressed*, killed, (ἀδικία) Abel, accepted of God, because it revealed his ἀσέβεια (Ge 4:3-8)
 - This is why sinful Judaism killed (ἀδικία) Messiah; He revealed their ἀσέβεια so they *suppressed* Him (Jo 1:1-5, 9-12)

People Guilty Without Law

- Law unnecessary
- Guilt reveals rebellion
- Thoughts, words, deeds flow from sin nature
- Child constant reminder of this truth (Is 51:4-5)



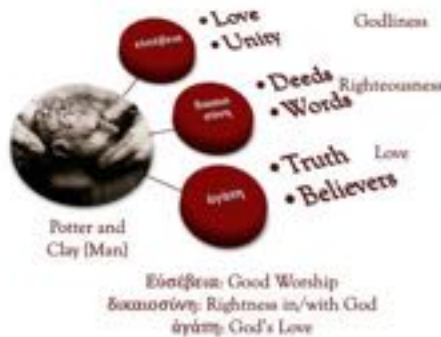
God Has Shown Truth

- The truth of God's invisible attributes have been **clearly** revealed by: Man's morality and Creation
 - God's divine nature are written on our hearts: Made in the image of God; Man is only moral creature
 - God's power visible in His creation: Testifies continually of God (Ps 19:1-6)
 - God told Job to explain God's creation if he wanted to question God; Job repented and was saved (Job 38-42)

Made in God's Image

- Flesh must control sin (Ro 4:6-7)
- Flesh independent of God cannot control sin (Ro 3:10)
- Lucifer instigated, but did not cause sin; man chose (1Ti 2:14)
- Christ controlled flesh (1Co 5:21)

Man's sin irrevocably altered his nature
Caused by man being independent



Side-by-Side Comparison



Pertains only to Man and Woman before sin



Pertains to Man and Woman after sin and Everyone ever born

Man Without Excuse

- The testimony of man's universal morality, Ten Words, and God's Creation on all levels is God clearly revealing Himself
 - Man did not honor or was thankful for God's truth; basis of ἀσέβεια, no reverence
 - Man's universal god-consciousness clearly shows God's truth received; idolatry shows rejection of God's truth
 - Man *steals* God's morality, less people destroy each other

Rejection of God's Truth: Nihilism

- Rejection of God's Truth, basis of all Creation and morality, has only one result: Nihilism {Vanity} (Ecc 1:1-11)
 - Claiming their substitute reasoning as wisdom they became fools {Rejection of given truth} (Pr 1:20-33)
 - Man has no basis for societal order except force {Society}
 - With only one government there was no restraint on violence which sought to suppress all who did not agree; thus, God brought the Cataclysm (Ge 6:3-8)
Even after the Cataclysm, man persisted with a single unrestrained government
Babel insured there would be multiple governments to counter balance each other
However, this is being defeated via regionalism to become globalization: unrestrained governmental force

Evidence of a Debased Mind

- As Man rejects glory of the incorruptible God, he rejects God and all He represents because God is His Truth, His Morality & His Righteousness {His Essence}
 - Man displays his ungodliness (ἀσέβεια) by elevating the elements of God's corruptible creation to status of gods
 - The ultimate sign of insanity is worshiping man as god knowing that all men die; cannot save themselves

Universal Ungodliness

- Archeology has shown that all ancient societies had worship forms of man, animals, insects, plants, etc.
- All societies throughout history have demonstrated their ἀσέβεια by these forms of worship; even those societies completely isolated for thousands of years
- Paganism is not the cause of ignorance; it is the result of rebellion that leaves man in ignorance since God's truth and knowledge were rejected

Prologue

- In a few short verses Paul reveals the grand sweep of human history distilled to:
 - God clearly reveals His nature and power in the universal morality of man and physical Creation
 - Man rejects this testimony AEB developing his own truths based on a creation that is passing away (1) (2:17)
 - Yet, Man testifies against himself by using God's morality but from his own reasoning (Do not kill, etc.)

Philosophy and Scientism

- Modern man believes he is better than pagan man as he is not trapped by ignorance; however,
 - Philosophies simply substitute man's wisdom (foolishness) for God's foolishness (wisdom) (1Co. 1:20,29)
 - Scientisms simply put scientific facts into God rejecting contexts to deny the Truth of the God of Creation
- Thus, modern man is the same as ancient man: Foolish

Infants Constant Reminders

- Infants are constant reminders of the Fall; man's inability to control sin alone in his flesh
 - Infants are conceived in sin; they do not become sinners by doing sin, they are born as sinners
 - They do *wrong* even before they can be taught rules (laws); i.e., before they are even taught language
 - Infants are not taught to sin; they are taught to refine sin to fit into their society; better than other societies

Old Antithesis of New Person

- The new person in Christ is the image of Christ (Co 1:20)
 - Saved live out of the faith given by God's self-revelation via the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit
- The flesh without sin had the burden of controlling sin; in itself it could not leading to sin (Ge 6:3; 1Co 1:29)
 - Instantly man died to God becoming a slave to Satan (Jo 8:44; Ep 2:1-3)
 - Every intent of the heart thereafter was evil (Ps 51:1-3)

Ultimate Goal: Old to New Person

- Old flesh never designed to live in eternity future
- This Creation never designed to be eternal
- New Creation requires a new creature (2Co 5:17)
- Always God's Plan (Ep 1:3-10)

