

## THE WRATH OF GOD AGAINST THE IMMORAL SINNER Pt. 1 {The Righteousness of God Required #1 - Romans 1:18-23}

### I. THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD INTRODUCED (Romans 1:1-17)

### II. *SIN & CONDEMNATION* - THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD REQUIRED (Romans 1:18-3:20)

Some introductory observations regarding this section:

- The theme that dominates this section is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God due to His wrath against sinful men. (1:18, 32; 2:2, 3, 5, 8, 16; 3:5, 6)
- The first 5 chapters of Romans are laced with \_\_\_\_\_ such as “wrath”, “without excuse”, “gave over”, “righteous judgment”, “judgment of God”, “justified”, “propitiation”, “accounted”, etc. as Paul paints the picture of a guilty sinner in a courtroom with God as the prosecuting attorney & just judge.
- The wrath of God is set forth as both a \_\_\_\_\_ sentencing (1:24,26,28) and \_\_\_\_\_ judgment (2:3-5, 16) with serious & deserving consequences for both.
- This section on *condemnation* is needed for lost sinners to perceive their \_\_\_\_\_ and the context of the Gospel, along with the \_\_\_\_\_ presented in the content of the Gospel. This passage begins by exposing man’s sin and ends with explaining God’s salvation. It moves from man’s guilt to God’s grace; from God’s condemnation to His justification by grace; from realizing the penalty of sin to the receiving of the power of the Gospel to salvation.
- Romans 1:18-3:20 is comprehensive leaving no sinner without legitimate guilt & due punishment whether it be the \_\_\_\_\_ sinner (1:18-32), the \_\_\_\_\_ sinner (2:1-16) or the \_\_\_\_\_ sinner (2:17 - 29) including both \_\_\_\_\_. (3:9-18).
- This first section (1:18-32) could be described by sinful man’s suppression of God’s revealed truth resulting in **INEXCUSABILITY** (1:18-20), **IRRATIONALITY** (1:21-22), **IDOLATRY** (1:23-25), **IMMORALITY** (1:26-27), **INSANITY** (1:28), **IRRESPONSIBILITY** (1:29-31), and **INCORRIGIBILITY** (1:32).

#### A. The GUILTY VERDICT and JUDGMENT of GOD Against the IMMORAL SINNER. (1:18-32)

1. God’s *wrath* and *truth* is revealed and the *inexcusability* of sinful man. (1:18-20)
  - a. God’s righteous wrath is revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. (1:18)
    - What is God’s wrath and what is true of it?
    - What is the direction of God’s wrath?
    - Who are the objects of God’s wrath?
    - What are the 3 causes for God’s wrath?
    - What does suppression of truth indicate and imply?

How might suppression of truth occur?

b. **God's clear revelation that all mankind possesses but suppresses. (1:19-20a)**

- 1) **Witness #1 of God:** \_\_\_\_\_. (1:19; 2:14-16) *because what may be known* {real, intuitive knowledge} *of God* {His existence and attributes} *is manifest* {evident, plain, obvious} *in them, for God has shown* {to show, reveal, make it plain} *it to them.* {Ecc. 3:11}
- 2) **Witness #2 of God:** \_\_\_\_\_. (1:20) *For* {why God's wrath is just & man is without excuse} *since* {from the beginning of} *the creation* {not evolution} *of the world* {Genesis 1} *His* {male pronoun & singular for God} *invisible* {not perceived through the 5 senses as God is spirit} *attributes are clearly seen* {to look down or see from on high with tremendous clarity - Psalm 19:1}, *being understood* {by the mental activity of logical understanding - how? *by* {observing} *the things that are made* {God's masterpiece of creation with its beauty, complexity, etc. demanding a creator, designer, sustainer}, *even His* {God's} *eternal* {without a beginning or end} *power* {dynamic power} *and Godhead* {His divine nature, His deity}... How has God revealed Himself to mankind?

c. **God's just verdict is "that they are \_\_\_\_\_"** {without a verbal or logical defense for their suppression of God's revealed truth}. (1:20) What can we learn from this?

- 1) God's wrath & judgment are logical & just, and not merely some emotional reaction.
- 2) Revelation from God demands a response from man with certain consequences.
- 3) The Creator-creature distinction means we are all accountable to God.
- 4) No one will be able to rightly plead ignorance before God about God, though all have not heard the Gospel.
- 5) The Bible clearly teaches God's direct creation of the world, not atheistic or theistic evolution which are neither biblical nor scientific.

2. **Man's downward spiral due to his suppression of God's revealed truth to irrationality & idolatry. (1:21-23) because, although they knew** {about} **God** {due to conscience & creation},

- a. *they did* \_\_\_\_\_ {active voice - by their choice} *Him as God* {evidence of the suppression of truth - not honoring God for Who He is and what He has done or was doing},
- b. *nor were* \_\_\_\_\_ {active voice - by their choice; expressing gratitude for His abundant and undeserved blessings in their lives}, **but** {in stark contrast}
- c. *became* \_\_\_\_\_ {passive voice; the consequences of their previous choices} *in their thoughts*,
- d. *and their foolish hearts* \_\_\_\_\_ {passive voice; they went from light to darkness}
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ {active voice; self-professing / claiming arrogantly} *to be wise*,
- f. *they became* \_\_\_\_\_ {passive voice - due to their own arrogance; mentally & morally},
  - g. *and* {ex} *changed* {active voice; to exchange one thing for another} *the glory* {doxa} *of the incorruptible* {incorruptible; immortal; invisible} *God* {the Creator} *into an image* {an idol} *made like corruptible man* {corruptible, decaying, mortal mankind due to the Fall; and if that wasn't bad enough, they went even lower to make idols of...} -- *and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.*

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What have we learned about the wrath of God toward sinful man today?

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It is \_\_\_\_\_ (1:18)

It is \_\_\_\_\_ (1:19-23)

It is only avoided by

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