

A Fatal Decision

Romans 1:18-32

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For 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 people are without excuse.

²¹For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

²⁶Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

²⁸Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. ²⁹They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, ³⁰slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; ³¹they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. ³²Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them. - Romans 1:18-32

Exchanged the Creator for the creation.

Exchanged God's design for their own desires.

Exchanged God's wisdom for self-condemnation.

APPLICATION

1) Compare Romans 1:17 to 1:18. What is being exposed in each verse? How does verse 18 make the good news of verse 17 so wonderful?

2) Why is sex so prominent in our culture today? Read Romans 1:24-27. Do you think our culture is any different than those before us?

3) Read over the list of sins in verses 28-31 with yourself, other believers, and the community in mind? What is the solution for each?

4) Is God the Lord and Ruler in your life? What does that look like day-to-day? What do you need to surrender to Him today? Will you?

PRAYER

- Spend some time thanking God for the Salvation He extended to you even when you were "an object of wrath." Thank Him for freeing you from one of the areas of your life that appears on the "list".
- Who in your life needs to experience the love of God? Do you see them or think about them do you see their sin or on their need for Jesus? Pray for them by name. How can you bless them this week?