

CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH

“Studies in the Book of Romans - 03

Date: September 13, 2008

Text: Rom.1:18-32

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THE HEATHEN ARE GUILTY!

INTRODUCTION Paul begins to tell the Roman Church of the importance of a proper presentation of the Gospel. All too often, even today, Christians pervert the message of how unrighteous man can receive the righteousness of God. So Paul begins by telling them that to properly present the Gospel one must begin with the “bad news of human sin and God’s wrath before any presentation of God’s “good news”” of salvation offered by Christ. To understand this, Paul gives the biblical principles of the Gospel of God. This begins by telling of sinful man’s state before God as seen by...

I. The Heathen’s Willful Blindness - (1:18-20)

- A) God’s Witness by Nurture – “Commencement”
- B) God’s Witness by Nature – “Creation”

II. The Heathen’s Wicked Beliefs – (1:21-25)

- A) The Godless Imagination of Sinful Man
- B) The Graven Images of Sinful Man

III. The Heathen’s Wanton Behavior – (1:26-32)

- A) They Become Morally Reprehensible
- B) They Become Mentally Reprobate

CONCLUSION: Three times in this chapter we are told that God gives man up who rejects God’s right to rule his heart. (vv.24, 26, 28). This usually begins with moral perversion and moves to a mind incapable of knowing and doing good. Thus all forms of wickedness are promoted and practiced. Our nation once founded on seeking God, as since moved to rejecting God and His word for our national and social living. As a result Paul tells us, God’s righteous retribution will fall on any people who do this. The extent of this rejection and retribution has just begun. We need to take a lesson from the Book of Romans and do all we can to make sure our lives do not match the downward path of the heathen. Are you in compliance with God’s Word for your life? If not, turn to Christ today.

TEXT FOR MESSAGE

The New International Version

Rom 1:18-32 (NIV) The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, 19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For 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 men are without excuse.

21 For 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. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. 24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator--who is forever praised. Amen.

26 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. 27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. 28 Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. 29 They 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, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Although 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.