



THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

PART I

LESSON 1: UNRIGHTEOUSNESS LEADS TO GOD'S WRATH

ROMANS 1:18-32

Wrath: strong vengeful anger or indignation, retributory punishment for an offense or a crime, divine chastisement.

'For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: ' (James 1:19-20)

GOD'S ANGER – ROMANS 1:18-20

¹⁸ But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness.

¹⁹ They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them.

²⁰ For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So, they have no excuse for not knowing God.

Discussion Question #1

- How does Psalms 19:1-4 correlate with the passages above?

¹ The heavens proclaim the glory of God.
The skies display his craftsmanship.

² Day after day they continue to speak;
night after night they make him known.

³ They speak without a sound or word;
their voice is never heard.

⁴ Yet their message has gone throughout the earth,
and their words to all the world.

KNOWING GOD – ROMANS 1:21-23

²¹ Yes, they knew God, but they would not worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused.

²² Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools.

²³ And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles.

Discussion Question #2

- What is it that make people refuse to recognize God as God? Was that ever you?

THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN – ROMANS 1:24-27

²⁴ So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies.

²⁵ They traded the truth about God for a lie. So, they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.

²⁶ That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other.

²⁷ And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved.

Discussion Question #3 & 4

- What emotions comes to your mind after reading and studying these verses?
- How important is it for us to share the gospel every chance we are given?

CHOOSING SIN OVER RIGHTEOUSNESS – ROMANS 1:28-32

²⁸ Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. ²⁹ Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. ³⁰ They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. ³¹ They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. ³² They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them any.

Discussion Question #5

- Is there still hope for the people mentioned above? If so, what scripture basis would you use to demonstrate that truth?

APPLY THE TEXT

Since we see the reality of sin and its consequences in our world today, we should be about our Fathers business by letting our light shine, sharing the gospel and praying for those that are in the clutches of the enemy.

MEMORY VERSE

*The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that **any should perish** but that **all should** come to repentance.*

2 Peter 3:9