

# **“God’s Wrath Revealed Against Man’s Unrighteousness” Romans 1:18-2:1**

Message by Michael J. Barnard

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**Teaching Aim:** To understand God will not stand by idly forever while the world plunges deeper and deeper into evil; the day is coming when God will suddenly judge the world with the full fury of His wrath. To realize the invisible God has revealed Himself to mankind *“through creation”* so that man is without excuse for rejecting Him. To see homosexuality as a supreme example of the loss of human dignity due to a sinful lifestyle. To understand a debased mind will lead to further sin and an eternity in hell if there is no repentance and turning to Christ.

## **DIGGING DEEPER INTO GOD’S WORD (BIBLE STUDY)**

### **Part I: The wrath of God is revealed against sin (Rom. 1:18-25)**

1. What has made God so angry according to **verse 18**? What is the meaning of the word, *“suppress?”* (See Dictionary) What are some ways that we see our American culture *“suppressing”* the truth of God today for a lie? How should we as Christians respond when we see the secular media and government working together to suppress the truth of God for a lie? (See **Acts 4:18-19**)
  
2. According to **verse 19**, is it possible for people to see the *“invisible”* God today? If so how (**vs. 20**)? If God *“is Spirit”*, how can we see Him in the world today? (See **John 4:23-24**) Can a person directly look at the face of God and live? Why or why not? (See **Exod. 33:20**) What are some things that we can learn about God from creation? What are some ways human beings are mimicking the creative acts of God today? Has anyone but God ever created something out of nothing? Why or why not? (See **Gen. 1:1-3; John 1:1-4**)
  
3. Can people claim ignorance for not knowing God (**vs. 20**)? Why or why not? What are the major differences between *“general revelation”* and *“special revelation”*? Do **Rom. 1:20** and **Psa. 19:1-4** fall under the category of *“special revelation”* or *“general revelation”*? Why?

4. Is there any such thing as an “*innocent*” native in Africa, or anywhere else in the world for that matter? Why or why not? (See **Rom. 1:20; 3:23**) Although the unbeliever may not be judged for never hearing the name of Jesus, what will he or she be judged for (**vv. 20-21**)? According to **verse 21**, who should know that God exists? According to this verse, what angers God? What will happen as a result to those who do so? What do foolish people tend to think about themselves (**vs. 22**)? What does the Bible teach? (See **Psa. 14:1-3; 53:1-3**)
  
5. People are created in “*the image of God*” and we are expected to reflect God’s glory and His character to the world around us. According to **verse 23**, what did “*the unrighteous*” do? Do you see this as a step up for the human race or a step down? Why? (See **Psa. 115:4-8**) What kind of animals’ creep on the ground (**vs. 23**)? Could this be a picture of man, created in the image of God but now stooping to worship “*the serpent*?” Who is the serpent a picture of?
  
6. What does God allow “*unrighteous men and women*” to do according to **verse 24**? Why? What crimes did the unrighteous commit according to **verse 25**? Define the word, “*unrighteous*.” (See Dictionary) What is the only way that we can become “*righteous*” today? (See **Rom. 3:19-22**)

## **Part II: God’s views on the homosexual lifestyle (Rom. 1:26-27)**

1. According to **verse 26**, what “*punishment*” do people receive when they exchange “*the truth of God for the lie*” by worshipping and serving “*the creature rather than the Creator*?” More and more we are seeing the LGBTQ movement promoted through secular media and our government as a normal and acceptable lifestyle. Is it? What did God have to say about this important topic in **verses 26-27**? (See **Gen. 19; Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Deut. 22:5; 1 Cor. 6:18-19; Jude 1:6-7**) Are those in the homosexual lobby right in proclaiming that the Bible doesn’t speak negatively against the homosexual lifestyle, or are they promoting a lie from the pit of hell?
  
2. What are some ways that the promoters of homosexuality are changing the values of our American culture and the world today? Are you surprised at how quickly Americans are allowing these changes to take place? Do you see the changes as good or evil? What are some ways Christians can counteract this false indoctrination?

2. How should we as Christians respond to homosexuals and lesbians when we meet them in public? (See **Matt. 22:35-40**) How should Christians respond to those attending church who practice homosexuality? Is there ever a time when homosexuals should be allowed to serve in church leadership positions? How about heterosexuals who commit adultery? What standards should be used in both cases?

**Part III: The consequences of rejecting God and doing your own thing (Rom. 1:28-2:1)**

1. What do we mean when we say someone has a “*debased*” mind? (See Dictionary) What happens to human behavior when people reject God according to **verses 29-32**? What 24 negative characteristics are seen in **verses 29-32** as a result of rejecting God? Does the rejection of God positively or negatively affect our society? What is the solution for people to get back on track? (See **Rom. 10:9-11**) Take the 24 negative characteristics in **verses 29-32** and write down the exact opposite word to describe “*righteous living*.” What kind of a world would you rather live in, a world that is righteous or unrighteous?

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2. Why do you think “*the God of the Bible*” is rejected by so many people today? (See **John 3:3,5**) In what way is “*evolution*” a rejection of God? What are some ways that this belief is negatively affecting our culture today? How is it affecting our young people? What should the church do to correct it?

3. According to **verse 32**, are people unaware or aware that “*a righteous God*” will eventually judge them for their sins? Why do you think people continue “*to choose*” a lifestyle of sin? (See **2 Cor. 4:3-4**) What additional sin is mentioned in **verse 32**? Why is this sin so heinous? What is the solution to all sin? (See **Acts 16:31; John 3:16-17**)

4. According to **Romans 2:1**, should we be judgmental toward other people because they live a sinful lifestyle? Why or why not? (*Note: It's amazing that every unbeliever seems to have the concept of this verse memorized – see **Matt. 7:1; Luke 6:37**) Why do you think God warns the believer rather than the unbeliever here? (See **Jam. 2:10**) When we point our finger at somebody else because of sin, how many fingers do we have pointed back at us? Would we be able to stand before God on Judgment Day in our own righteousness? (See **Rom. 3:9-12**) What is Paul's point in **verse 1**?*
5. How should the love of Christ and His death on the cross for our sins affect the way we interact with unbelievers today? (See **Matt. 22:37-40; Luke 6:37; Rom 3:23; 2 Cor. 5:21; Jam. 2:10; 1 John 1:9**) Do you see yourself as a judgmental person or as someone who reaches out to others with the love of Christ? What are some practical steps that you can take to better reflect the love of Christ to others?

#### **MINER'S CORNER – *Manna to live by!***

- The wrath of God will not remain idle forever, judgment will come swiftly and unexpectedly.
- The invisible God has revealed Himself through creation (*even if someone has never heard the name of Jesus*) so that all people are without excuse for rejecting Him.
- Because people reject God, He removes His restraining hand and allows them to suffer the consequences of their own sinful desires.
- Homosexuality is illustrated as a supreme example of the loss of human dignity because of sin.
- A debased mind will lead people to an eternity in hell if they do not repent and receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
- As Christians, we should not concern ourselves with judging the character of other people, that is for God to do; we should be judging ourselves and our own walk with the Lord instead.