

ROMANS: The Gospel of God

“Humanity in Ruin”

Romans 1:18-32

May 2, 2021

Introduction

The idea of a wrathful God is not a popular idea. Many would prefer a feeble, elderly figure whose power is not omnipotent, whose knowledge is not omniscient, and whose gaze is not omnipresent. A deity who would:

- Never be offended by our shortcomings and transgressions.
- Reward us for being nice and let us off easy when we are naughty.
- Accept us for who we are with no consequences whatsoever.

If it were up to us to come up with a God based upon your own wants and sensibilities, wrath would not be a part of our composite. If we came up with a God of our own liking, we would come up with Santa Claus. We would never come up with the God of the Bible. That is why we must be tethered to God’s revelation of Himself in His holy word.

The Apostle Paul begins the message of Good News in Romans with a God who is angry, a God who is perfect in all His attributes and possesses wrath that is exercised with perfection. William Gurnall wrote, *“Nothing so sweet as the patience and goodness of God, and nothing so terrible as His wrath when it takes fire.”*

In Romans 1:18-32, we find the reason God’s wrath is revealed from heaven and why humanity is in ruin apart from God’s redemption through Jesus Christ. History reads as a downward spiral of depravity. For our time together, I want to provide an overview of this entire passage, and then we will come back for a more detailed treatment in coming weeks. What I find in Romans 1:18-32 is a biblical understanding of humanity and the world in fifteen verses.

~Romans 1:18-32

We Live in a World of Active, Aggressive Rebellion to God's Reign:

- A. God's Wrath is R_____ (v. 18)**

- B. The N____ Revelation of God is Suppressed (v.18-19)**

- C. No E_____ is Valid (v. 20)**

- D. The D_____ Exchange (v. 23, 25)**

- E. God G_____ Them Up to Their Passions (v. 24, 26-28)**

- F. Depravity is A_____ (v. 29-32)**

Conclusion

The gospel of Jesus Christ presented throughout the New Testament, tells us that God hasn't left us to ourselves. In Jesus Christ, we find that God has brought reconciliation and redemption to this dark world. Through His amazing grace we who were blind, now see Him who can restore what we have sought to destroy. This is Good News for those who come to Him.