



Romans 1:21-32

Three Exchanges

1. Vs. 23 People exchanged God for idols.
2. Vs. 25 People exchanged the truth of God for the lie.
3. Vs. 26 People exchanged natural sexuality for perversion.

Three "Handing Overs"

1. Vs. 24 People are handed over to lust of their hearts.
2. Vs. 26 People are handed over to degrading passions.
3. Vs. 28 People are handed over to a depraved mind.

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Mankind Has a Depraved Mind

Romans 1:28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a **depraved mind**, to do those things which are not proper...

- "see fit" = dokimazo – to test in order to determine whether something is genuine or worthy.
- "depraved mind" = adokimos – an unapproved mind!
- **Romans 8:8** Those who are in the flesh **cannot please God.**

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The Sins of Depraved People

Romans 1:29-30 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents...

- “Being filled” = Perfect, passive – focus is on the existing state of mankind.
- “Envy, murder” = assonance: phthonou, phonou

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The Sins of Depraved People

Romans 1:31-32 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; 32 and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

- “without understanding” = no comprehension of God’s will
- “untrustworthy” = unfaithful to covenants and treaties
- “unloving” = term has to do with familial love
- “unmerciful” = those who need mercy don’t show mercy!

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Applications

1. Mankind’s depravity is so severe that no person can be saved without God’s gracious power of regeneration.
2. We must know that the only remedy for a “depraved mind” is the renewing of the mind by the word of God.
3. We should remember that only Jesus was guiltless of the sins Paul lists in vss. 29-32.

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1. God's Answer to Man's Depravity

The Problem: People Are Born Sinners

Romans 5:19 For as **through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners**, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

Psalms 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.

Psalms 58:3 The wicked are estranged from the womb; These who speak lies go astray from birth.

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1. God's Answer to Man's Depravity

The Remedy: God Given Regeneration

Deuteronomy 30:6 Moreover the **LORD your God will circumcise your heart** and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, so that you may live.

Titus 3:5-6 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, **by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit**, 6 whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior...

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2. The Importance of Renewing the Mind

Romans 1:28 And just as they **did not see fit** to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a **depraved mind**, to do those things which are not proper...

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by **the renewing of your mind**, so that you may **prove** what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

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3. Only Jesus Is Sinless

Romans 1:31-32 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful...

Isaiah 42:1-4 Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. 2 He will not cry out or raise His voice, nor make His voice heard in the street. 3 A bruised reed He will not break and a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish; He will faithfully bring forth justice. 4 He will not be disheartened or crushed until He has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands will wait expectantly for His law.

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