

OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION

MAY 9, 2021

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 2**

~God's invitation for us to engage in worship in the Holy Spirit

***Weekly Congregational Response**

~Our humble response to God's call to worship

***Prayer of Invocation**

~The giving of thanks for God's promised presence and work among us

***Song of Preparation and Praise - Good, Good Father**

~Our celebration of God as our good and faithful Abba Father

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Romans 3:21-26**

~Our admission of our failures and need for Christ as Savior

***Prayer in Response to Our Assurance of Pardon**

***Song of Comfort - Jesus, I Come To Thee**

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

Pastoral Prayer - First Care Women's Clinic and Matthew Rabe, Grace Presbyterian Church, Cedartown GA

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - The Gentiles' Need for Jesus, Part 1 Romans 1:18-23

***Song of Response - King of Kings**

~Our commitment to apply God's Word in and through our lives

***Announcements**

~Weekly opportunities to live out the Word read, confessed, prayed, sung, and preached

***Benediction - Romans 5:1-5**

~God's parting blessing as we are sent out on His redemptive mission

*Stand

"THE GENTILES' NEED FOR JESUS, PART 1"

ROMANS 1:18-23

Key Truth: We are deserving of God's wrath and need Jesus because we suppress the truth and try to replace God with our own wisdom and worship.

Introduction:

Q: *What is the opposite of God's wrath?*

"The wrath of God, then, is almost totally different from human anger. It does not mean that God loses his temper, flies into a rage, or is ever malicious, spiteful or vindictive. The alternative to 'wrath' is not 'love' but 'neutrality' in the moral conflict. And God is not neutral. On the contrary, his wrath is his holy hostility to evil, his refusal to condone it or come to terms with it, his just judgment upon it."

John Stott, *The Message of Romans*

Romans 1:18-20: We Suppress the Truth

"... Paul is not here speaking of a saving knowledge of God. The context is concerned with the condemnation of the Gentile world, not its salvation. . . . nobody can say, 'I did not know.' Our condemnation in each case lies in the fact that we have sinned against the light we have, not against the light we have never received. Thus, though the Gentiles did not receive the full revelation in the law of the Old Testament, they did receive enough illumination to know what was right. And they followed the wrong."

Leon Morris, *The Epistle to the Romans*

Q: *What excuses do you try to make for your sin? How are your excuses suppressing the truth?*

Romans 1:21-23: We Try to Replace God with Our Own Wisdom and Worship

"*We resemble what we revere, either for ruin or restoration.* . . . All of us are imitators, and there is no neutrality. We should disabuse ourselves of the notion that we can be spiritually neutral. We are either becoming conformed to an idol of the world or to God. Some might think that it is possible to exist in a mode of spiritual neutrality in their Christian lives. . . . When God's people think this way and act accordingly, in reality, they become subtly conformed to the world instead of to God."

G. K. Beale, *We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry*

Q: *How have you changed in the past year? What does this reveal about your worship?*

Application:

Romans 1:18-23 teaches us that we need Jesus because:

- We suppress the truth that God reveals
- We try to replace God with our own wisdom and worship

Benediction: *Romans 5:1-5*