



Why We Need Good News

January 17, 2021

Romans 1:18-32 (ESV)

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

²⁴ Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; ²⁷ and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

MESSAGE NOTES

Why We Need the Gospel

REVELATION

v. 19 “what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it”
See Psalm 19:1-4

SUPPRESSION

v. 18 “suppress the truth”
Adam and Eve did this in Genesis 3:1-7

SUBSTITUTION

Failure of worship = “exchanged the glory of the immortal for...”
They traded DOWN

WRATH

WRATH = “God gave them up” in verses 24, 26, 28
Present wrath NOT future wrath (Romans 2:5 and 2:8)

DISLOCATION

vv. 24-28
As we dislocate from God (trade down) we further dislocate from God’s natural order
“Exchange” in verses 25-26

PARTICIPATION

vv. 29-31

CELEBRATION

Compare with Isaiah 5:20

RESOURCES FOR TODAY

BOOKS:

Redeeming Sex by Debra Hirsch

[Amazon Link](#)

A War of Loves by David Bennett

[Amazon Link](#)

People to Be Loved: Why Homosexuality Is Not Just An Issue

[Amazon Link](#)

PODCASTS:

Theology in the Raw with Preston Sprinkle, Episode 646 with David Bennett

<https://www.prestonsprinkle.com/theology-in-the-raw/2018/5/3/646-a-conversation-with-david-bennett-author-of-a-war-of-loves>

VOX Podcast with Mike Erre, Episode 163 with Nate Collins

<https://soundcloud.com/thevoxpodcast/gay-christians-sexual-identity-and-the-church-with-nate-collins>

GOING DEEPER

We want to encourage you to invest more time into the book of Romans. Like we said, we won't be looking at EVERYTHING in Romans but we will be looking at ENOUGH. Here are some ways for you to go deeper into Romans:

Pray about what you learned today.

If God spoke to you today, find a quiet space and take the time to respond to God in prayer.

Huddle up with some friends.

Join with one of our Home Groups that is going through Romans. Email micah@thecrosspointchurch.ca to learn how to join a group.

Do a deeper Bible Study.

You can access our Home Group study for the week at thecrosspointchurch.ca/notes. Do the "Deeper in the Word" session for yourself.

Read through the entire book of Romans.

In fact, we encourage you to do it a few times, in different translations. Not sure what translations to use? Try the NIV, ESV, NLT, NASB, and The Message. If you need more translations of the Bible you can access them [here](#).

Watch the Bible Project's "Romans" video on YouTube.

Check out the first of two videos [here](#).

Read "Paul for Everyone: Romans, Part One" by N.T. Wright as you go through the series.

You can order a copy [here](#).

Take the free Biblical Training online course with biblical scholar Douglas Moo.

Sign up for the course [here](#).

Read and pray through Romans in 31 days.

These don't need to be consecutive days! You can find a helpful guide [here](#).