

**18**For the **wrath of God is revealed** from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who **suppress the truth** in unrighteousness, **19**because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. **20**For since the creation of the world His **invisible** attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are **without excuse**. **21**For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their **speculations**, and their foolish heart was **darkened**. **22**Professing to be wise, they became **fools**, **23**and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

**24**Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. **25**For they exchanged the truth of 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 over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, **27**and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

**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, **29**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, **31**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.

18-23 – “Wrath of God” = Consequences of a just God acting justly.

Wrath: Revealed—Blessing? and revealed—against:

- Ungodliness (763; ἀσέβεια “irreverence”)
- Unrighteousness (93; ἀδικία, “legally wrong”)

What suppresses the truth? Why does unrighteousness suppress truth?

What is the “evidence within” which makes God known?

- ⋈ Creation of the world demonstrates His invisible attributes.
- ⋈ His eternal power. Example?
- ⋈ His divine nature. How so?

Results: Ungodly/unrighteous people...

- ⋈ Are without excuse (for what?) (379, ἀπολογεῖα, “defense”)
- ⋈ Knew God, yet:
  - Did not honor (1392; δοξάζω “esteem/glorify”)
  - Give thanks (2168; εὐχαριστεῖω “be thankful;” root for *Eucharist*)
- ⋈ Became futile (3152; μάταιος “useless”) About what? Why?
- ⋈ Professing to be wise, actually became fools (3471, μωραίνω “to become insipid, useless,” root for *moron*)
- ⋈ Exchanged God’s incorruptible glory for corruptible images of:
  - Men, Birds, Four-footed animals, Crawling creatures (ἐρπετον)

24-25—Consequences of ungodliness/unrighteousness:

- God gave them over to their love of impurity [heart-matter] so that their bodies would be dishonored (818; ἀτιμάζω, “rendered contemptible; despise”) [physical-matter].
- They exchanged the truth of God for a lie.  
The lie? The creation is God.  
So? The creature is to be worshiped and served rather than the Creator.

26-32—Consequences of exchanging truth of God for the lie:

God gives them over to degrading passions.

- Women became unnatural (?)
- Men became unnatural, committing indecent (?) acts
- Receiving “in their own persons” due penalty of error.
- ⋈ God gives them over to a depraved (?) mind which cause people to do improper things:
  - Activities: Gossip, slander, God-haters, “inventors” of evil, disobedient to parents,
  - Attributes: Wickedness, envy, malice, insolent, arrogant, boastful, without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful
  - Acts: Greed, evil, murder, deceit, practice deeds worthy of death (?), approve heartily those who practice these deeds