

**Rom 1:24-32;
God gave them up.**



THE DOCTRINE OF SIN. 1:18-3:20;

**BECAUSE OF SIN THERE IS A
UNIVERSAL NEED OF SALVATION.**

GENTILE STATE OF SIN –1:18-32;

JEWISH STATE OF SIN – 2:1-3:8;

CONCLUSION

“none righteous no not one.” 3:10;

**“every mouth may be stopped and
the whole world held accountable.” 3:19;**

**“all have sinned and
fallen short of the glory of God.” 3:23;**

THE DOCTRINE OF SIN. 1:18-3:20;

Paul has just said that **salvation is available to both Jew and Gentile**, but he must first establish that both Jew and Gentile are condemned and **in need of salvation**.

Beginning with **Rom 1:18**; and continuing through **Rom. 3:20**, Paul endeavours to show that very thing.

The remainder of **Rom 1** is devoted to demonstrating that **the sins of the Gentiles render them lost** before a Holy God.

In **Rom 2** Paul will turn his attention to demonstrating **the same thing concerning the Jews**.

1:18. “The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.”

21. “Though they knew God, they did not honour Him as God, or give thanks; but became futile in their speculations, and their foolish hearts were 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.”

so what does God do?

Not in the future, but judgment now.

Paul's Letter
to the

ROMANS

Therefore God.

gave them up to lust & uncleanness,
that their bodies would be dishonoured

✓ because they exchanged Truth for a lie & served
the creature instead of the Creator.

gave them up to vile passions, to lesbianism and
homosexuality, with their accompanying diseases.

✓ As they refused to have God in their knowledge.

“gave them up” to a depraved mind, to do improper things:-
-filled with unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil;
-full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice;
-gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant,
boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without
understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful.

***“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.”***

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

1:24; Therefore, God gave them over.

1:26; ...God gave them over.

1:28; ...God gave them over.

**He allows free beings to go their way
how is this judgment?**

**We are still God's creatures in God's world
every life bears the marks of God's judgment.**

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

Why would a good God do this?

**Why couldn't He just create
free beings that don't sin?**

**Without choices without consequences,
there is no freedom**

**If God does not judge, He's responsible.
If God does not judge, then moral distinctions
and actions lose all meaning.**

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

**Why would a good God do this?
Why would God “GIVES US OVER?”**

Not in **REJECTION**, but in **HOPE**
that at some point we will come to our senses
and be prepared to acknowledge
our **NEED** for God?

**“the gospel is the power of God
for salvation
to everyone who believes.”**

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

**GOD FORSAKES THEM
BECAUSE OF THEIR UNBELIEF.**

1:24-32;

THE STEPS OF APOSTASY

1:21-23;

and CONSEQUENCES.

1:24-32;

7 Steps in the Apostasy of the Gentile World

The world had received the knowledge of God (v. 21;) and yet-

- 1 ***They glorified him not as God (v.21;)***
They did not give God His rightful place as undisputed Sovereign.
- 2 ***Neither were thankful (v.21;)***
They took His blessings for granted as their rightful due.
- 3 ***Became vain in their imaginations (v.21;)***
Foolish, empty, conceited reasoning's.
- 4 ***Their foolish heart was darkened (v.21;)***
Deprived of true understanding.
- 5 ***Professing themselves to be wise (v.22;)***
A false claim...They were self-deceived.
- 6 ***Became fools (v.22;) The fool has said in his heart, there is no God (Ps. 14:1) Arrogant.***
- 7 ***Changed the glory of God into an image. (v.23;) Idolatry...depraved in character.***

The first steps away from God were in things men neglected to do:
they glorified Him not... they *neither were thankful.*
Sins of "not-doing" led to sins of "doing."

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

**MEN BECAME LIKE
THE GODS THEY WORSHIPPED.**

GOD GAVE THEM UP:-

To LUST – v24;

To VILE PASSIONS – v26;

To REPROBATE MINDS v28;

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

FOR WRONG LOVING – 24-25 to idolatry.

FOR WRONG LIVING – 26-27 to sensuality.

FOR WRONG THINKING – 28-32 to depravity.

“Paul's aim is to show that the **whole of Humanity is Morally Bankrupt**, unable to claim a favourable verdict at **the judgement** bar of God, **desperately in need of His mercy and pardon**”

F.F.BRUCE :- Tyndale Commentary.

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

Three times the phrase: **"God gave them up"**
ABANDONED - he allowed them to go ahead.

Two facts implicit in this:- (TUG OF WAR.)

God does not leave man without knowledge of himself.

God never coerces man into obedience or holiness. Jn 19:30;

**God's rejection of man is His acceptance and response
to mans rejection of God.**

**"The lost will enjoy forever the horrible freedom they
have demanded, and are therefore self enslaved."**

C.S.LEWIS "The problem of pain."

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

For wrong desire. (lust) vv24-25.

As a result of the persistent rebellion of the Gentiles against Yahweh, Paul says that God gave them up so that they might freely pursue the lusts of their own hearts.

God will never violate the free moral agency of man and, if man persists in living to fulfil his carnal desires.

God will not prevent him from doing such, nor will He prevent him from reaping the consequences of his transgressions.

2 Cor 5:10; 1 John 2:15-17; Prov 23:7;

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

Whiteside's comments are very helpful:-

“When people are determined to reject God for their own way, God allows them unhindered to follow their chosen course so that they may the sooner see the degradation that comes to those who follow their own wisdom.”

Thus, **God's wrath is revealed** by **permitting** man to live in the situation which he creates for himself.
(Hos 4:11; Acts 14:16;)

In short, man's sin is his abandonment of God.
In turn, God punishes man by abandoning him.
(Ps. 81:12; Acts 7:42).

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

In the context of Rom 1:24-25; Paul indicts the Gentiles of dishonouring their own bodies, changing the truth of God into a lie and worshipping the creature more than the Creator.

"the sinful desires of their hearts." EPITHOIMIA.

37 times in N.T.: 'strong desire'.

34 times with a bad connotation.

Jn 8:44; 2 Pet 1:4; 'desire, lust'.

Used in a good sense:

Lk 22:15; Phil 1:23; 1 Thess 2:17;.

Verb. EPITHUMEIO used 16 times e.g. Matt 13:17;

a) Strong desire is evil **if it is** directed towards
an illegitimate object.

b) **If it is** directed by **a wrong motive.**

c) **If it is inconsistent** with what God wants for us.

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

"To uncleanness" sexual impurity.

This refers to the lasciviousness and fornication that was associated with idolatry.

Erotic dance, orgy, prostitution,
incest, phallic ritual.

Rev 18:1-6, 24 ff; 1 Cor 6:12-18;)

This depth of depravity was not reached

**Until they gave up God and
pursued the lies of their own making.**

Idolatry is often called a "lie“

(Jeremiah 16:19-20; Habakkuk 2:18-20;)

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

- 1) Desires of the flesh. Gal 5:16;**
- 2) Deceitful lusts. Eph 4:22;**
- 3) Senseless and hurtful lusts. 1 Tim 6:9;**
- 4) Youthful lusts. 2 Tim 2:22;**
- 5) Ungodly lusts. Jude 18;**

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

The cost of abused freedom?

sexual exploitation,

sex used as immoral, unspiritual,

unemotional worship of beauty and pleasure

Not only does not satisfy but also it does not last.

It shatters intimate trust

on the altar of pure self-interest.

The cost of abused freedom?

Distortion of sexual identity.

It becomes sinful, and profoundly damaging.

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

25 “Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies. So they worshipped the things God made but not the Creator Himself, who is to be praised forever. Amen.”

26. “That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other.”

27. “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

Rom 1:25; “Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies. So they worshiped the things God made but not the Creator himself, who is to be praised forever. Amen.”

So what truth did the Gentiles exchange for a lie?

**They turned from the worship of the true God.
The God Who Is, to worship an idol that is not.**

**According to Paul, idols are nothing. (1 Cor 8:4;)
Jeremiah described the idol
as a molten image of falsehood. (Jer 10:14;)**

**Tragically, the Gentiles had turned from worshipping
the Creator, Who is deserving of praise, in order
to worship the creature made by the Creator.**

Rom 1:25; “Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies. So they worshiped the things God made but not the Creator himself, who is to be praised forever. Amen.”

Matt 7:21. “On judgment day many will tell me, 'Lord, Lord, we prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.'

23. But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Go away; the things you did were unauthorized.’”

Of the Jews **Jesus** had said:- **Mark 7:7;**

“These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far away.

Their worship is a farce, for they replace God's commands with their own man-made teachings.”

Rom 1:25; “Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies. So they worshiped the things God made but not the Creator himself, who is to be praised forever. Amen.”

2 Thess 2:9-11; “This evil man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles.

10. He will use every kind of wicked deception to fool those who are on their way to destruction because they refuse to believe the truth that would save them.”

11. “So God will send great deception upon them, and they will believe all these lies.”

Rom 1:25; “Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies. So they worshiped the things God made but not the Creator himself, who is to be praised forever. Amen.”

Choosing to believe lies led them to IDOLATRY.

They perverted the concept of the omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent God, thus limiting His power and authority. Any time we substitute something for God we worship an idol.

Greed “Amounts to” Idolatry.

“Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.”

Colossians 3:5;

Rom 1:25; “Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies. So they worshiped the things God made but not the Creator himself, who is to be praised forever. Amen.”

Greed “Amounts to” Idolatry.



Rom 1:25; “Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies. So they worshiped the things God made but not the Creator himself, who is to be praised forever. Amen.”

"Blessed forever."

Rom 9:5; Eph 1:3; 1 Pet 1:3;

Paul uses every opportunity to praise God.

He had finished his statement, but he feels he must express his gratitude to God.

Rom 1:26; “Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones.”

Choosing to believe lies led them to **IMMORALITY.**

They did everything they should not have done, corrupting and destroying their own nature and corrupting the whole culture in which they lived.

This is the only place in the Bible that condemns **lesbianism.**

But it is enough to let us know how God feels about the practice.

They became attached to and a part of **the rebel gang that opposes God and everything good.**

We see them at work today trying to get Christianity out of government and public life.

Rom 1:26; “Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones.”

FOR WRONG LIVING:- 26-27; to SENSUALITY.

Repetition of idea of **exchanging the good for the bad, the natural for the unnatural.** Paul reiterates the reality of God's abandonment of the sinners under consideration. These sinners are described as participants in **"vile affections."**

And what would qualify as a **"vile affection"**? Paul provides us with an example of such vile affections by discussing men and women who leave **"the natural use"** of their bodies to engage in carnal intercourse with those of the same sex – **homosexual behaviour.**

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”



Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

Drawn to Others of Like Mind.



**Many Hollywood producers
will do anything to make money.**

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

They encourage each other in their deviance of Gods word. It was only **a few years ago** when **homosexuals** were “**marrying**” in San Francisco?

Suddenly there was a spate of **homosexual “marriages”** in several other states.

Then Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled it was unconstitutional to deny homosexuals the right to marry.

Now here in Britain

**Homosexual marriages have been legalised
Practices that God labels 'sin' are approved,
condoned and legalised by sinful man.**

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other.

Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”



Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

History records that **homosexuality** was rampant in **ancient Rome**.

In fact, **fourteen of the first fifteen emperors** are reported to have been **professed homosexuals**.

According to Paul, **homosexuality** is **"against nature."** In other words, it is against **God's sexual design for the human body**.

Some homosexuals argue that the phrase **"against nature"** means against your inborn sexual orientation.

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

They say, "**Homosexual relationships** are not necessarily unnatural. **They're perfectly natural to me.**"

Hence, they allege that it would be "**against nature**" for the heterosexual to engage in homosexuality and it would be equally **unnatural for a homosexual to participate in heterosexual activity.**

In reply, we observe that all of the wishful thinking and attempted rationalization in the world **will not eradicate God's plain teaching on the subject from the Bible.**

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

A journal article written by Richard Hays shows conclusively that “the terms **"natural"** and **"unnatural"** were very frequently used... as a way of **distinguishing** between **heterosexual** and **homosexual behaviour.**”

Therefore, to act **"against nature"** is to **violate God's established order** and to act **"according to nature"** means to behave in harmony with God's intent in creation.

At creation, God saw that man was lonely and needed a mate.

God did not create for and bring another man to Adam!

At the beginning, the Creator made them male and female.

(Gen 2:18-25; Matt 19:3-9;)

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

In another desperate attempt to justify their perversion, homosexuals argue that what Paul is condemning in Rom 1 is a homosexual forcing himself on another against the other person's will. **The text declares otherwise.**

Paul speaks of men “**burning in their lust one toward another**” Thus, what Paul is condemning is homosexuality by mutual consent.

Furthermore, **homosexuals** will often **claim** that **God made them to be homosexuals.**

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

If that were true, it would mean that God condemned people to Hell for something that He made them to be.

Paul makes it abundantly clear in 1 Cor. 6:9-11; that impenitent homosexuals will not inherit the kingdom of God.

If God made them that way, then **He is responsible** for their being unable to enter the kingdom of Heaven! Which is nonsense? **God wants all to come to repentance.**

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

Despite the plain teaching of Scripture, **homosexuality is more accepted in today's society** than it ever has been in the history of the nation.

However, **regardless of the increasing tolerance** manifested toward homosexuality in society today, **God's Word still calls such activity** "vile affections," (2) "against nature," (3) that which is "unseemly," and (4) "error."

In addition, God's Word still says that **homosexuals receive in themselves** that “recompense of their error which is fitting.”
(Rom 1:27b;)

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

The meaning of this has been hotly disputed. Lard says that "it was a reward received in their persons - **most likely a penalty, in the form of a disease which they suffered.**"

It is interesting to note that **Lard** wrote these words nearly a century before the AIDS virus became so prominently associated with homosexuality.

Deaver also believes that the phrase has to do with those who became **diseased in body** after the abuse of God's natural order, which original conclusion he wrote down in 1957, decades before the AIDS virus began creating panic.

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

Wayne Jackson commented on this phrase with the following sobering words:-

“There appears to be a suggestion in the latter part of Rom 1:27 which indicates that there could be natural and devastating consequences which result from this manner of living.”

“The modern scourge of AIDS and other maladies such as Kaposi's sarcoma and pneumocystis (which occur as much as 200 times more in homosexual men than normally) would seem to support this view.”

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

Further, he even raises the interesting possibility that Job 36:14; is connected in theme with the latter part of Rom 1:27;

Also **NEB:** "Paid in their own persons the fitting wage for such perversion." Gal 6:7;

The passage in **Job** speaks of young boys dying in their youth.

These young people would die among the unclean.

Both the KJV and the ASV provide a footnote for the word **unclean**, identifying the word to be equivalent to "**sodomites.**" Jackson suggests the possibility that there is a connection between their youthful deaths and the practice of homosexuality.

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

Paul may not have been thinking specifically of the AIDS virus when he penned Rom 1:27;

But it is not too dogmatic to argue that he had in mind every possible disease and consequence which would or could ever result from the practice of homosexuality.

Unmistakably, he prophesied dire physical consequences of some sort which they would suffer because of this abominable practice!

**Nero married a boy and called him his wife,
He Married a man and called him his husband.**

**Today we now see two men married
time changes nothing.**

Rom 1:27; “And the men, instead of having normal sexual relationships with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men and, as a result, suffered within themselves the penalty they so richly deserved.”

Many today argue that Homosexuality
And Lesbianism are natural and normal.

A good **test for what is normal** would be to have
three Islands and put **100 persons on each.**
With no contact with the outside world for 150 years

- 1) 100 Homosexuals.
- 2) 100 Lesbians.
- 3) 100 Hetrosexuals

Then check to **see what population of individuals**
were living on the islands **after 150 years.**

FOR WRONG THINKING:- 28-32; to depravity.

28 “Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.”

29 “They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.”

**“They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents;
31 they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless.”**

Pick out the Important words. 1:28-32;

Rom 1:28; “Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.”

Paul records that these reprobates did not like to retain God in their knowledge. Of course they did not.

The **God of Heaven was not the God they wanted, and so they rejected Him.** “They do not like to think of Him, since he condemns and reproves their lifestyle.”

The language indicates that **their rejection was not an unconscious act but a deliberate and disdainful one.** We do not like to think of one superior to us who condemns us.”

Rom 1:28; “Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.”

Accordingly, Paul emphasizes for the third time (in the span of five verses!) that God gave these Gentile sinners over to a reprobate mind to continue to do that which is not fitting.

AMP: "Since they did not see fit to acknowledge God or approve of him or consider him worth the knowing."

The thinking of the Gentiles, bringing them under the wrath of God, was due to their deliberate rejection of truth.

Rom 1:28; “Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, **he gave them over to a depraved mind,** to do what ought not to be done.”

v21 "for although they knew God,
they neither glorified him as God."

v23. "and exchanged the glory of
the immortal God for images."

v25. "They exchanged the truth of God for a lie."

v28. reprobate, degenerate.

v32. "they know God's righteous decree."

All this originates in the "depraved mind."

The KJV has "**reprobate**" whereas
the NKJ has "**debased.**"

ADOKIMOS literally signifies
something "**not standing the test.**"

Rom 1:28; “Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.”

The Depraved Mind.

Deviant behaviour is a sign that identifies such people.

These are people who make the **deliberate choice to rebel** against what they know to be the will and clear teachings of God.

Rom 1:28; “Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.”



Rom 1:28; “Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.”

People with this kind of thinking and mentality caused God to bring the Great Flood.



“The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.” Gen 6:5.

Rom 1:29; “They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.”

Consequence. vv29-32;

The Gentiles' record of rebellion is catalogued by the apostle in the closing verses of the chapter.

Paul moves from the general description of **ungodliness** and **unrighteousness** he had mentioned in Rom 1:18;

To a specific rehearsal of the sins of the Gentiles.

Rom 1:29; “They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.”

Paul lists the consequences which follows **when man rejects the knowledge of God. v 29-32;**

Classification:-

Internal, sensual vices. v24-27;.

Anti-social vices. vv29-31;.

See Barclay on Romans
for more details on these words.

Rom 1:29; “They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.”

Filled with **unrighteousness.**- All manner of injustice, such as cheating, fraud, etc. (Leviticus 19:35-36;)

Wickedness / injurious actions.

Evil, Maliciousness, and malignity.

The word malignity occurs in both the KJV and ASV. It comes from a compound Greek word which means **"bad character, depravity of heart and life"**

Rom 1:29; “They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.”

Greed, Covetousness. (greedy desire.)

envy— upset at another's good fortune.

murder—disregard for human life.

Strife (debate, quarrel, wrangle) KJV mentions debate as one of the sins of the Gentiles.

Does this mean that it is sinful to engage in public discussion to debate the truth? No, it does not. The word translated "**debate**" in the KJV is properly translated "**strife**" in the ASV.

Rom 1:29; “They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.”

Deceit (a snare, treachery, hypocrisy) cunning contrivance for deceiving in order to get the advantage.

Malice, Whisperers, (a cowardly sneak who injures reputations) This word whisperers is also somewhat obscure in meaning to the average English reader.

Thayer says that the word means "**a secret slanderer.**" Picture someone whispering malicious gossip and slander behind someone else's back, and you will get the general idea of the word.

Rom 1:29; “They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.”

Backbiters. the same basic concept of speaking evil against someone.

Haters of God. hateful to God" (ASV), and **Thayer** defines it as being "exceptionally impious and wicked."

Insolent. (grossly disrespectful, or insulting.)
The **despiteful man** of the KJV
is the **insolent man** of the ASV.

The word conveys the sense of "one who, uplifted with pride, either heaps insulting language upon others or does them some shameful act of wrong."

Rom 1:29; “They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.”

Slanderers, Backbiters. The same basic concept of speaking evil against someone. Those who delight in destroying another's good name.

Haters of God. hateful to God." (ASV)

Thayer defines it as being "exceptionally impious and wicked." The sower of seeds of discord by false information and witness.

Rom 1:30; “slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents;”

Haughty proud. / arrogance, conceited.

Inventors of evil things. / one who is always seeking some new way to gratify lust and have pleasure.

Disobedient to parents. / disregard for parental authority.

Rom 1:31; “ they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless.”

Senseless. Without understanding.

The phrase without understanding is equivalent to being unintelligent or foolish;

Thayer even lists "**stupid**" as a synonyms.

This definition obviously has nothing to do with mental incapacity;

It refers to a mind like that described in Prov 1:7; which has no interest in the wisdom of God One who is wilfully ignorant of what is right.

Rom 1:31; “ they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless.”

Covenant breakers. / those who violate the solemn obligations of covenants and contracts.

Without natural affection. is equivalent to being "hard-hearted toward kindred."

This would include mothers who abort or abandon their children and children who abandon their parents in their advanced years.

Rom 1:31; “ they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless.”

Unmerciful. The word **implacable** in the KJV is not included in the ASV.

The word points to one of an obstinate nature, one incapable of being changed in mind or action.

Harsh, unfeeling,
having no sympathy or compassion.

God's word holds no comfort to those who regard some sins as 'respectable.'

Malice, envy, strife, gossip,
are in the same class as murder.

Rom 1:32; “Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.”

A psychological fact. "A man is what he thinks."
Phil 4:8-9; Prov 4:23; 23:7; Rom 1:32; 2 Sam 12:5-6;

"They know what God's verdict is: that those who behave like this deserve to die and yet they do it, and what is worse; encourage others to do the same."

HODGE to delight in the sins of others shows that men are of set purpose and fixed preference, -
WICKED.

Rom 1:32; “Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.”

The sinners described in the previous verses are **"worthy of death."**

What is even more amazing is the fact that **they participated in their sins with the full awareness** of the potentially stiff penalties which awaited them.

The word **death** here seems to have perplexed commentators very much. **Lard** understands it to refer to **natural death**, a reference to **capital punishment** meted out to criminals brought before the court.

Thomas B. Warren also perceives that the death mentioned in this passage to be a **natural death** brought on, either **by the excess of the sin itself**, or as **the result of capital punishment for sin**.

Rom 1:32; “Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.”

A few commentators regard this **"death"** to be equivalent to that of Rom 6:23; – **"the wages of sin is death."** (spiritual death.)

The majority opinion, however, seems to take **the death of Rom 1:32;** as a reference to **natural death.**

This being the case, the passage could be used to demonstrate the idea that God is in favour of capital punishment.

Rom 1:32; “Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.”

Of course, "**the second death**, the lake that burns with fire and brimstone." (Rev 21:8;)

Has been designated by God as the **ultimate "capital punishment"** for evildoers.

The depth of degradation embodied by these sinners is especially evidenced by the fact.

**That they delight, not only
in their own sinful pleasures,
but also in the transgressions of others.**

Rom 1:32; “Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.”

In summary, **they knew right and wrong**
Because
God had revealed His truth among them.

They knew that certain crimes
were worthy of death because
their consciences had been informed.

Yet they willingly and rebelliously
practiced such things
and rejoiced when others did the same.

CONCLUSION.

We have observed the way the apostle Paul rehearsed his qualifications for writing an apostolic letter to the Romans.

Paul's focus in writing is Jesus Christ, the Saviour, the Son of God, the seed of David, the resurrected Lord, the giver of grace.

We have seen how Paul was set apart for the purpose of preaching the faith to all nations for the purpose of producing saving faith.

Paul's thoughts seem to be directed at showing the depth to which man had fallen.

Many were hardened beyond repentance and would surely be lost.

His purpose, of course, is to touch those who will yet repent.

We have **rejoiced with Paul** at the world-renowned **faith of the Roman congregation.**

We have seen **Paul's intense desire to visit the congregations of Christ at Rome** in order to impart spiritual gifts unto them that they might be established.

We have felt **our adrenaline rush** as we read of **Paul's eagerness to preach the gospel in Rome.**

We have been **inspired** by **Paul's** stalwart **courage** to **preach the gospel unashamedly** to **all** classes and conditions of men.

In the second half of the chapter we come to grips with **the cold, Hard reality of sin among the Gentiles.**

In spite of **God's revelation** to the Gentiles in creation and in verbal revelation, the **Gentiles** had largely rejected God to pursue the **"wisdom"** of the world, to **worship idols,** and to **practice multiplied perversions.**

In plain view of the penalty of death,
they **brazenly rebelled** against God
and His decrees.

Yet, **in spite of this rebellion,**
God gave His Son to die
even for their sinful sort.

Rom 1:24; “Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonoured among them.”

The glory of the Book of Romans
is seen in the way it moves us
from guilt to grace.

Truly, the riches of God
are unsearchable
(Rom 11:33;)

Glory be to God for providing
a means by which
sinner can be made righteous!



**Rom 1:24-32;
God gave them up.**

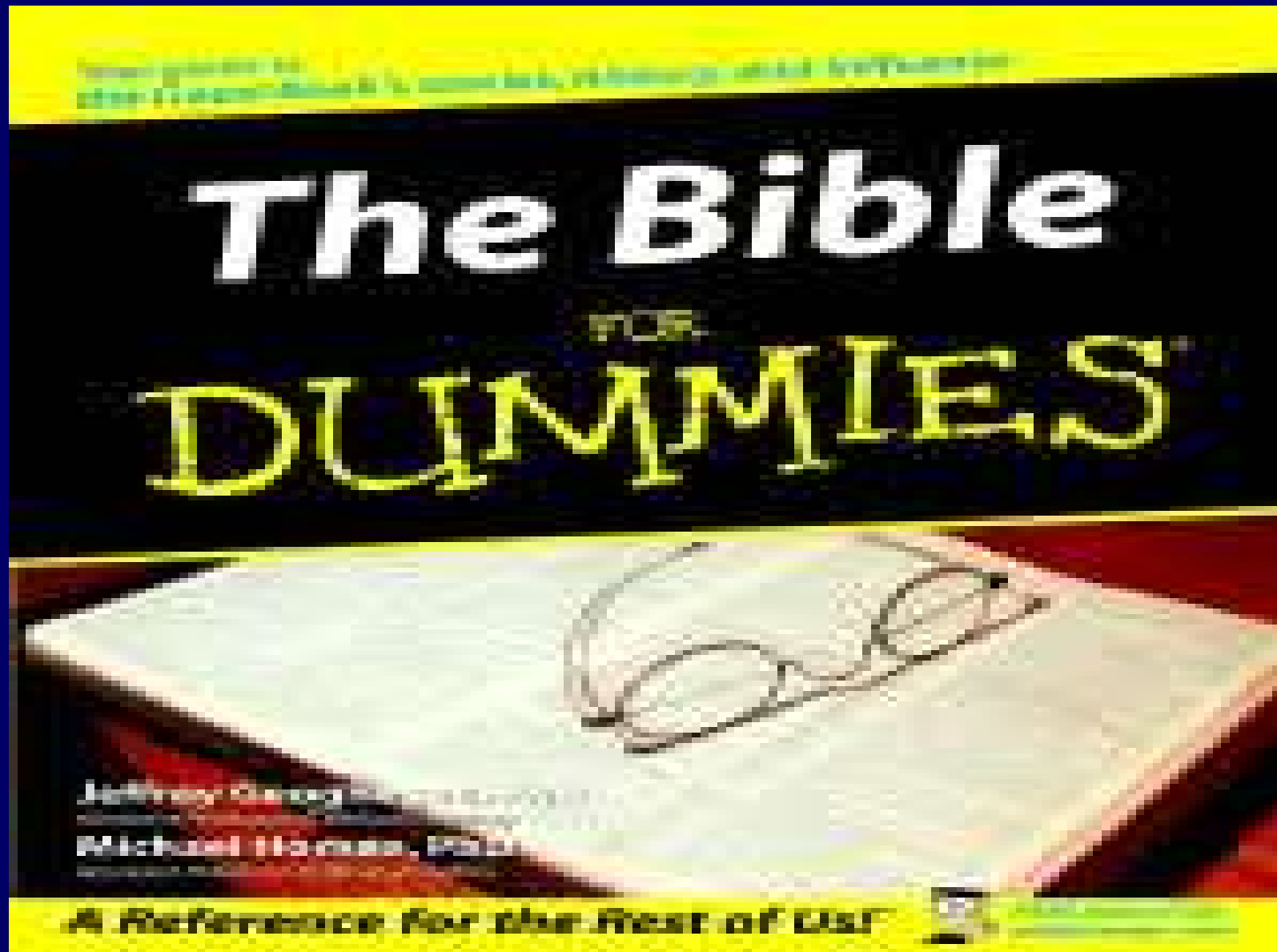
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**Next in the series:-
Romans Chapter 2:-
There is no Partiality with God.**

You've seen this kind of book, right?
Hence the title of this poem.



Salvation for “Dummies.”

By Ellis Jones. Isa 35:8;

**“A highway shall be there, and a road,
and it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.
The unclean shall not pass over it,
But it shall be for others.
Whoever walks the road,
even the simple-minded, shall not go astray.”**



**The gospel can be understood
By the “common man.”
If I, can understand it,
Then anybody can.**



**Those who say it cannot be,
Want you to follow them.
The light of God they darken,
Or make it very dim.**



**Like the ancient Pharisees,
They add their special rules.
They do not know God's wisdom.
They are misguided fools.**



**They have their explanations
That blur the simple truth.
They are blind guides of the blinded,
Who lead astray our youth.**



The gospel God made simple.
False teachers complicate it.
But if not for the **“common man,”**
For whom did God create it?





**The gospel has God's power.
Without it none are saved.
But obedience to the gospel
Converts the most depraved.**



**It creates saints from sinners,
For sins no longer blamed.
Of such a wondrous message,
Why should I be ashamed?**