

ROMANS

— THE GOSPEL CHANGES EVERYTHING —

Our Downward Spiral
Romans 1:18-32 NIV



Romans theme:

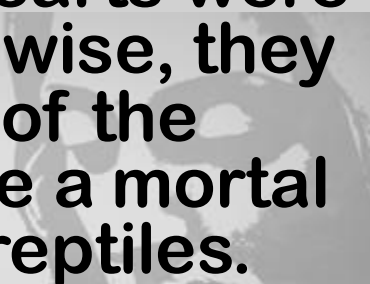
- **The righteousness of God is available to everyone who comes to Christ through faith.**
- **Truly justified people will live it out in everyday decisions and behavior.**



Romans 1:18-32 NIV

¹⁸ The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹ since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.


²¹ For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.



Romans 1:1-17 NIV

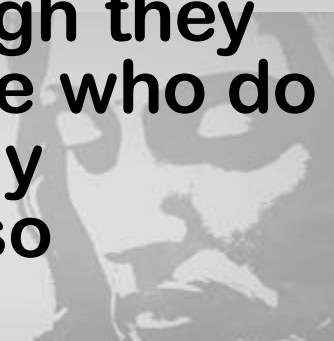
24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. **25** They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

26 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. **27** In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.



Romans 1:18-32 NIV

28 Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they 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 have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. **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.



- This is a parenthesis to Paul's discussion of the big theme.
- Tells us why we need the righteousness of God.
- Makes the point that everyone needs it.
- The human condition without grace is the black background on which the glory of God's gospel shines most clearly.



- **V. 18- God's wrath is being poured out because we are deceitful brokers of truth and worship.**
 1. **we supplies the truth in ourselves.**
- **We deny the innate knowledge of God in ourselves.**
- **We cannot stand the fact that God demands to be the center of our lives- we want that for ourselves!, so we suppress it.**



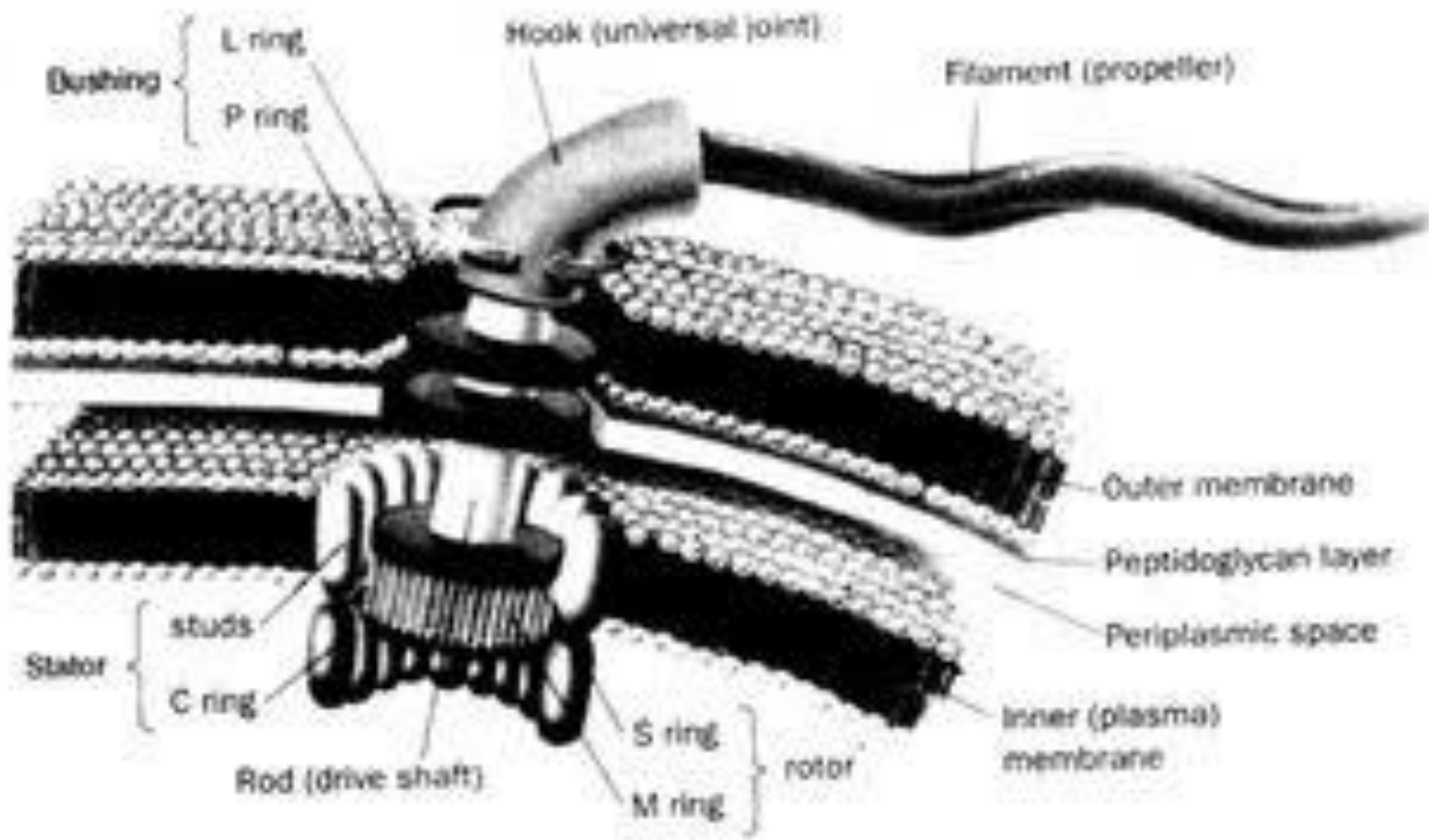
- **Romans theme:**
 - **The righteousness of God is available to anyone who come to Christ through faith.**
 - **Truly justified people will live it out in every day decisions and behavior.**



2. We suppress the truth in what we worship.

- We truly dislike the idea of a holy God ruling our lives, so we worship something we can manipulate/control.**
- We exchange the worship of the true God for things that we can make give us what we want.**
- This all beings with Un thankfulness and ingratitude.**
- We can't add to God's glory, but we can thank him for everything and bring everyone's attention to it.**







- **Wrath of God- is God just angry and wants to extinguish all sinners?**
- **God's settled opposition to anything that is set up against his glory.**
- **Shouldn't a God who loves you react with wrath against what destroys you?**
- **Shouldn't a God who loves his own justice and holiness respond with wrath toward sin?**
- **God loves you and hates the sin that is destroying you from the inside out.**



Romans 1:24-32 NIV

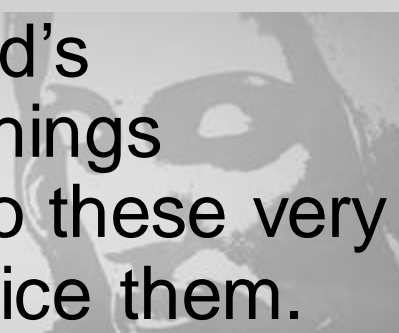
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Romans 1:24-32 NIV

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- **What is God doing about the darkness of our world and our sin?**
- **He's giving unrepentant sinners over to their sin.**
- **When we suppress the truth and indulge in sin, we accelerate the process of sin.**



- We spiral into all kinds of sin, especially sexual sins.
- Don't let anyone reinterpret these verses- homosexual activity is strictly forbidden.
- Like idolatry is an unnatural expression of worship, homosexuality is an unnatural expression of human desires.
- They do what they know is wrong and they encourage it in others.



- **Why aren't the people I love Christians?**
- **They are God-haters.**
- **It's not a lack of evidence- it's the suppression of truth.**
- **We will invent evil to keep from worshiping God.**



- **We must be so thankful to God!**
- **He has already done everything necessary to give us the righteousness of Christ**
- **Even though we are naturally haters of God, inventors of evil, ungrateful, idol worshipers**
- **God had to do something- it's truly amazing grace!**



- **Christian be thankful!**
- **Don't live any longer in suppressing the truth (old man!)**
- **Today is the day of your salvation!!**



