

Upside Down

Romans 1:18 - 32

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, 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, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 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.

Greek: "to hold down"
-men will not admit to what they instinctively recognize.

Let. "Reasonings"
v. 23 explains "fools"

power, wisdom, goodness an infinitely mighty God one beyond man

here is why there is "Wrath"
Revelation
The creation informs us of God.

Rejection
they would not accept the God who was there.

Reason

Replacement
an exchange takes place

Reprobation
God lets a culture live out its ignorance. its sin becomes a rod for its back.

the good and wonderful man will not worship

the evidence of God's wrath and the reprobation is the practice of an unnatural, degrading, indecent, error.

that of sodomy.

Ruin

the entire culture disintegrates.

Reversal

But not only is there moral erosion. The culture that rejects the true God will even exalt and applaud that which is intuitively wrong. Evil is normal and desirable and good. Virtue becomes an object of scorn. -tn