

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE
A Study in the Book of Romans

The Wrath of God Revealed

Romans 1:18–32

“For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him...” Romans 1:21a

Read Romans 1:18–20.

1. *When, why, and to whom* is God’s wrath being revealed? (v.18)

2. By what means has God revealed himself according to this passage? (v. 20)

Is this type of revelation sufficient to bring people to salvation? Why or why not? (Rom. 10:13–14)

3. What invisible qualities of God has He revealed through what is visible? (📖 Ps. 19:1–4; Ps. 97:6)

4. How might you use these verses to respond to someone who says that it isn’t fair for God to judge people who have never been told about Him?

Read Romans 1:21–28.

5. What charge is made against mankind in verse 21?

6. Paul tells us why God’s wrath is being revealed by elaborating on the depth of man’s depravity in three repeated sequences. Write down the three “exchanges” that people make, then write down the three consequences of their choices as God “gave them over.”

vv. 22-23	v. 24
v. 25	v. 26a
v. 26b-27	v. 28b

7. What does Eph. 4:18 say is the cause of these problems?

8. How does God define a fool? (Ps. 14:1) (📖 Prov. 18:2; Prov. 28:26; Matt. 7:24–27.)

9. American Christians today would probably say that we don't exchange the glory of God with the kinds of images listed in verse 23. However, we would likely admit that we replace it with other images. What examples can you think of?

10. What do you think it means for God to "give them over...?" What does that tell you about our 'human nature'?

Read Romans 1:29–32.

11. Paul closes this last section with a list of "things that ought not to be done" as a result of being given over to a depraved mind (v. 28). Put each of the offenses listed in verses 29–31 into one of the categories given below.

Actions	Attitudes	General Terms

Are there any items on the list that surprise you? If so, which ones and why?

How does their inclusion on the list change the way you think about them?

12. In verse 32, Paul indicates that wickedness is not limited to doing evil yourself. Rather it extends to approving of the evil practices of others. Give examples where you see this occurring in our culture today.

13. This passage demonstrates how we are all capable of sinning against God on every level—in our thoughts, in our motives, and in our behavior. Take a few moments to reflect on ways in which you may have sinned against Him, then spend some time praising God and thanking Him for the gospel.