

**Rom 1:18-23; What is known  
about God is evident.**



**The theme of the book is stated in 1:16-17;**

**“For I am not ashamed  
of the gospel of Christ,  
for it is the power of God unto salvation  
for everyone who believes,  
for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”**

**“For in it the righteousness of God  
is revealed from faith to faith;  
as it is written,  
“The just shall live by faith.”**

**THEME OF THE BOOK -"Justification by faith  
apart from the works of the law." 1:16-17;**

## **GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE BOOK.**

<b>Introduction.</b>	<b>1:1-15;</b>
<b>Statement of Thesis.</b>	<b>1:16-17;</b>
<b>Doctrine of Sin.</b>	<b>1:18-3:20;</b>
<b>Doctrine of Justification.</b>	<b>3:21-5:21;</b>
<b>Doctrine of Sanctification.</b>	<b>6:1-8:39;</b>
<b>Doctrine of vindication.</b>	<b>9:1-11:36;</b>
<b>Practical exhortation.</b>	<b>12:1-15:13;</b>
<b>Conclusion.</b>	<b>15:14-16:27;</b>



Let's summarize & get an overview of the next section.

Paul's  
Letter  
to the

**ROMANS**

**Introduction, 1:1-17 – this prologue consists of:**

- A. His greeting (1-7;)
- B. His desire to preach in Rome. (8-15;)
- C. Thesis (16-17;) Crucial concepts of **faith, righteousness, & salvation.**

**Summary of 1:18-3:20 – all stand condemned**

**A. Gentiles are condemned:-**

- 1. because they rejected God's revelation to them. 1:18-23;
- 2. The results: 1:24-32;

**B. Jews are condemned:- 2:1-3:8:**

- 1. You condemned yourselves.
- 2. You're condemned by your works.
- 3. God is not partial to you.
- 4. You do not obey the Law He gave you.
- 5. You do not believe in His Scriptures.

There is  
no partiality  
with God  
2:11

**C. Everyone who has sinned is guilty...  
everyone is under condemnation! 3:9-20;**

# The Revelation of God's Righteousness. (Rom 1:18-5:21;)

## B. Condemnation:

### The need for God's Righteousness.

1:18-3:20;

1. Gentiles are guilty. 1:18-32;

2. Jews are guilty. 2:1-3:8;

3. All are guilty. 3:9-20;

## C. Justification: God's Righteousness is imputed. 3:21-5:21;

1. Righteousness described. 3:21-31;

2. Righteousness illustrated in Abraham. 4:1-25;

3. Benefits of righteousness. 5:1-11;

4. Contrast of righteousness and condemnation. 5:12-21;

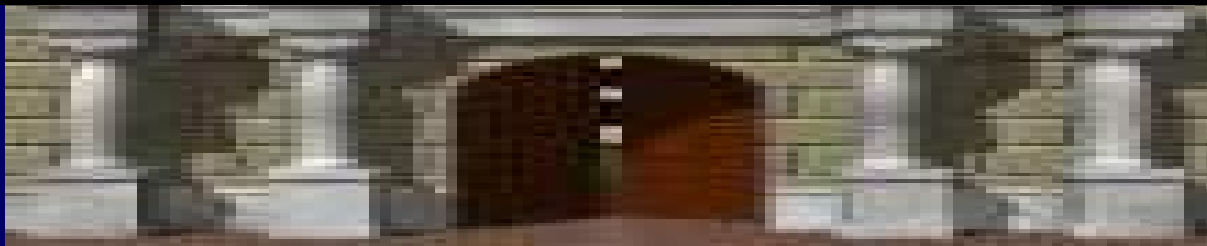


# THE DOCTRINE OF SIN. 1:18-3:20;

Theme of this section is the universality of sin and condemnation. Rom 3:10,19,23; all that sinful man deserves from God is condemnation, **Therefore there is a universal need of Salvation.**

Through Jesus and His words God will ultimately **JUDGE** all men  
John 12 46-50;

The aim of this section (see Rom 3:9;) is to prove the issue of **GUILT**.  
**Jews and Gentile** are **EQUALLY** involved and in **BONDAGE** to **SIN**.



**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.



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

Proper emphasis should be given to the first word of Rom 1:18; The word translated **"for"** is significant in that it links together the thought of Rom 1:17; and Rom 1:18; **A revelation of God is mentioned in Rom 1:17; and also in Rom 1:18;**

**According to Rom 1:17; the righteousness of God (God's plan for making men righteous) is found in the written revelation of the gospel.**

**That is that God's GRACE is revealed through Christ's death burial and Resurrection.**

**In Rom 1:18; we read of the revelation of God's attitude toward sin. God's wrath is said to be revealed from Heaven against sin and ungodliness, which wrath is aimed specifically at unrighteous men "who hold the truth in unrighteousness."**

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

Hence, the **love of God in planning to save men by the gospel was preceded by His hatred of sin.**

Time after time the Book of Romans demonstrates that God is a God of **goodness and severity.** (Rom. 11:22;)

Modern man loves to hear about the love of God, but has no use for any sermons on His wrath.

Yet, **however distasteful** such language may be **to some ears,** it is amongst the household words of the New Testament as well as of the Old.

(Matt 3:7; John 3:36; Rom 2:5-8; Eph 2:3; 5:6;

Col 3:6; 1 Thess 1:10; 2:16; Heb 3:11; 4:3;

Rev 6:16; 14:10; 19:10;)

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

**“The design is to show that the salvation provided in the gospel is the need of all, and that the power of God is operative unto salvation. only through the revelation of the righteousness of God appropriated by faith.”**

**“The convergent lines of the apostles argument all meet in a conclusive demonstration that all, both Jew and Gentile are utterly destitute of the good, which would make them well pleasing to God, and are therefore subjects of wrath.”**

**QUOTED FROM New London Commentary.  
John Murray.**

- 18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men 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 men are without excuse. Rom 1:18-20;***

# Pick out the Important words 1:18-20;

WRATH

UNGODLINESS

TRUTH

WICKEDNESS

BE KNOWN

CREATION

INVISIBLE QUALITIES

ETERNAL POWER

DIVINE NATURE

WITHOUT EXCUSE

# **GENTILES CONDEMNED WITHOUT THE LAW 1:18-32;**

**The inexcusableness of unbelief 1:18-20;  
God's three fold revelation of himself;**

**WRATH OF GOD. – v18 – JUDGEMENT.  
INNATE KNOWLEDGE. – v19 – INNER  
CONSCIOUSNESS.  
KNOWLEDGE OF GOD. – v20 – REVEALED IN  
CREATION.**

**(HIS everlasting power and deity.)  
These revelations are based on the fact  
that God has revealed himself in the past.**

# **GENTILES CONDEMNED WITHOUT THE LAW 1:18-32;**

**In every person there is a moral oughtness  
- we often know what we ought to do!**

**PSYCHOLOGY:** Begins by showing the depths of depravity to which the Gentile world has sunk. Every Jew whether Christian or not would say:  
**"AMEN!"**

**CORRUPT IN PRACTICE. – 18-20;**

**CORRUPT IN THINKING. – 21-22;**

**-degradation of religion.**

**CORRUPT IN WORSHIP. – 23;**

**- debasing of Deity.**

# GOD'S WRATH REVEALED AGAINST UNGODLINESS

Romans 1:18-32

THAT WHICH MAY  
BE KNOWN OF ...

**CONSCIENCE**  
God manifest in them  
v. 19

**REVELATION**  
God showed it unto  
them  
v. 19

**CREATION**  
Creation shows His  
power/daily  
v. 20

(1) **THE GLORY  
OF GOD**  
v. 21

(2) **THE IMAGE  
OF GOD**  
v. 23

(3) **THE TRUTH  
OF GOD**  
v. 25

(4) **THE KNOWLEDGE  
OF GOD**  
v. 28

**REVELATION**  
They gave no  
glory or thanks  
to God  
v. 21

They corrupted  
the concept of  
God  
v. 23

They changed  
the truth of God  
into a lie—  
they worshiped  
the creature  
v. 25

They abhorred  
the idea of the  
true God in their  
minds  
v. 28

**RESULTS:**  
Empty reason-  
ings and dark-  
ened hearts  
v. 21

**RESULTS:**  
Their hearts  
and bodies were  
ruled by their  
lusts  
v. 24

**RESULTS:**  
Sexual disorder  
and bondage  
vv. 26-27

**RESULTS:**  
Their minds  
became repro-  
bate—sin  
filled their lives  
vv. 29-32

**PHILOSOPHY**  
PHIL 2:11

COL 1:15

JOHN 14:6

JOHN 17:3

THIS IS A PATTERN OF SIN AND BONDAGE



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

**The truth of God hindered.**

**The Gentile man (the pagan world)**

**- Corrupt in practice.**

**F.F.B: "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 mercy and pardon."**

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

**First Paul describes the Gentiles those without the written Law.**

**In Chapter 2, he will show that the Jew who had the Law is in exactly the same condemnation.**

**Paul's own verdict on man is that he is under the wrath of God.**

**That fact which makes the gospel necessary, God's wrath is his invariable response to "ungodliness and wickedness"**

**In the bible there are more references to God's Wrath than His Love.**

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

We should remember to **distinguish** between the **wrath of God and the wrath of man**. God's wrath is not to be understood as an angry rage.

R. L. Whiteside describes it as

**"legal wrath rather than emotional."**

It is the expression of His holy hatred of sin.

**Because He is holy and just,  
God must judge and punish sin.**

**This wrath is directed from Heaven  
toward the ungodly and the unrighteous.**

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

These are men who **"hold the truth in unrighteousness."** (KJV).

The ASV provides us with the better rendering: **"who hinder the truth in unrighteousness."**

The idea is that the ungodly and unrighteous lives of the Gentiles, lived before the world, **hindered the light of God's truth from being welcomed into the hearts of men.**

**In short, their wicked example kept the truth from having its intended effect upon the lives of others.**

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

**The wrath of God. The revelation of God's purpose in the gospel concerns Divine justice satisfied, as well as Divine love exercised.**

**Ungodliness leads to idolatry,  
Unrighteousness leads to immorality.**

**"wrath". ORGE: God's holy revulsion against all unrighteousness, and evil.**

**It is His implacable, unrelenting attitude towards sin.**

**When applied to future judgement, it describes the condemnation due to unforgiven sin.**

**Matt 3:7; Rom 5:9; Eph 5:6;**

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

**“Wrath** originally meant any natural impulse or desire, Then came to signify anger as the strongest of passions.” VINE.

In man **ORGE** is most often condemned.  
Eph 4:30-31; (anger.) Col 3:6-10; (wrath / anger.)  
I Tim 2:8; (anger.) James 1:19-20; (anger.)

**EXCEPTION:** Eph 4:26; **Righteous anger**,  
Anger is not wrong,  
It is how you use or direct it. Mk 3:5;. Usually not  
against personal insult, but that hurting others.

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

**ASEBIA:** "impiety", "godlessness" ungodliness, practical impiety.

**ADIKIA:** "unrighteousness" wickedness, perversity, turning to wrong purposes.

**Truth is suppressed by wickedness.**

**KATECHOO:** "suppress." to hold down. Luke 4:42; 1Cor 11:2; (maintain) 1 Thess 5:21;(hold fast) Heb 3:14; (hold firm) **ungodly living hinders the truth.**

**BARCLAY** "Who wilfully suppress the truth that is struggling within their hearts."

**CONYBEARE** "Who keep the truth (which they know) by the wickedness whereby they live."

**The power of the truth to effect change, depends on the attitude of mind (heart) of the hearer. Mat 13:18-23;**

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

**We can learn several things.  
Those who reject belief in God  
or deny His authority suppress truth.**

***Is humanity guilty?***  
**what does it mean?**

**This requires an objective standard  
to measure against not derived from nature  
- an eternal, personal Being.**



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

## **THE HUMAN CONDITION**

**requires an objective standard**

**requires a consequence**

**requires a certain kind of being.**

**For a moral STANDARD without justice  
is meaningless.**

**It is personal:** we are free, intentional,  
aware and have a moral point of view.

**1:19-20;** “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**The Pagan world was without excuse.**

**A reading of Rom 1:19-20; reveals that the Gentiles could not plead ignorance of God's existence nor of their responsibility to Him on the basis of a lack of evidence.**

**God had sufficiently shown Himself unto the Gentiles.**

**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

The things which could be known of God had been **made known to them.**

But how did God make Himself and His will known to the Gentiles?

**He did so in two ways: creation and revelation.**

Paul argues that the invisible things of God can be **“clearly seen”** by examining the things that are made, **so much so that the man who rejects the existence of God is without excuse.**

A careful examination of God's creation gives us **sufficient evidence of the existence of a Supreme Power in the universe.** Truly, the heavens do declare the glory of God. Psa 19:1-3;



**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

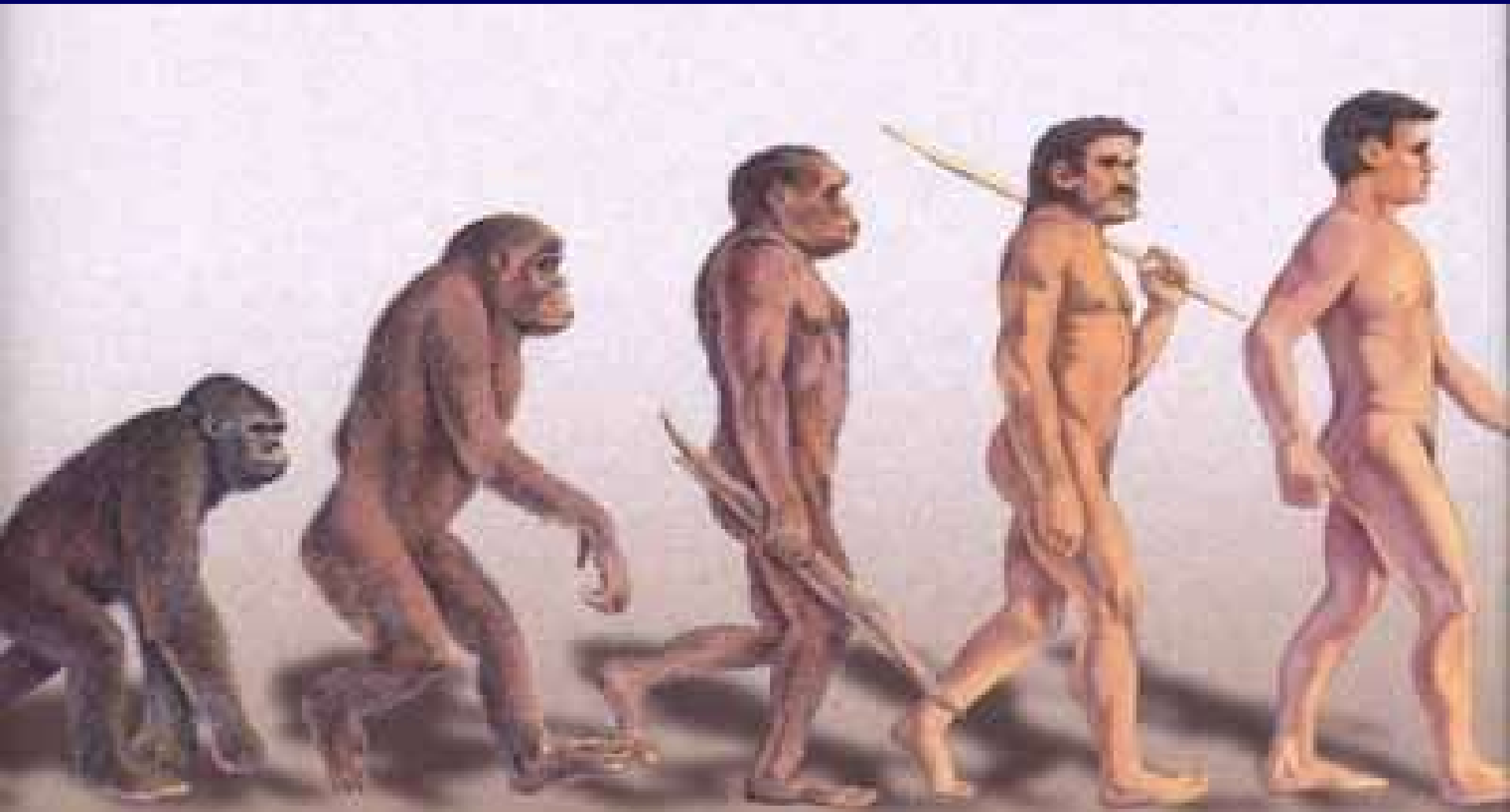
**A severe penalty from God will be given out to those who reject Him because.**

**The Evidence is There!**

**The design and order of the universe is sufficient evidence to convince any reasonable person that a Being of great intelligence, wisdom and power designed and made it.**

**But, many people rationalize away faith in God because they will not give up their sinful lifestyle. Their so-called reasons satisfy themselves and their like-minded friends.**

**Our Newspapers  
Even our Schools are Trying to  
Make Monkeys of Us and Our Children.  
Do we have to let them?**



<b>Gallup Poll</b>	<b>Humans leveloped, with God guiding</b>	<b>Humans developed, but God had no part in process</b>	<b>God created humans in present form</b>	<b>OTHER (vol.)/ No opinion</b>
	%	%	%	%
2001 Feb 19-21	37	12	45	6
1999 Aug 24-26	40	9	47	4
1997 Nov 6-9	39	10	44	7
1993 Jun	35	11	47	7
1982	38	9	44	9

**Many today deny the intelligent design  
of the universe.**



**The real reason is that  
they reject the authority of God.  
This is what led to their unbelief.**





**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

**We also learn.**

**Those who WANT to believe,  
CAN and will believe.**

**Those who do not want to believe will ignore  
or reject any kind and amount of evidence  
that would not fit their preconceptions.**

**God did not destroy all unbelievers  
the moment they sinned, therefore  
He allowed them to go on in their unbelief.**

**This in turn led to greater immorality  
for the impenitent and unremorseful.**

**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

**However, it is extremely crucial to note that natural revelation is inadequate to reveal all that we need to know about God.**

**The beauty of a tree and its foliage might convince me of the existence of a Supreme Architect.**

**I could not watch a leaf falling to the ground and thereby conclude that such an Architect loved me enough to send His Son to die for me and rescue me from sin.**

**Without actual communication from God, man would not even know that he is a sinner. Nature alone does not reveal all that God is, nor was it ever intended to.**

**1:19; "because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them."**

**It has been well said,  
"Nature declares God is,  
and the Bible declares Who He is."**

**Paul clearly affirms that the gross immorality of the Gentiles was **inexcusable because they had sufficient revelation from God to know right and wrong** on these matters.**

**In fact, the Gentiles had more than just a natural revelation of God's existence and power available to them.**

**Let us not forget that **God had communicated His will to the patriarchs.****

**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

## **Before Abraham.**

**Adam.** Gen 1-3; Enoch Gen 5:24 Jude 14-15;

**Noah.** Gen 6:1-8; 2 Pet 2:5;

## **After Abraham.**

**Abraham.** Gen 18:16-33; 20:7;

**Melchizedek.** Gen 14:18-24; Heb 7:1-10;

**Joseph.** Gen 39-50;

## **After Moses.**

**Jethro.** Exod 2:16-18; 3:1; 18:1-24;

**Balaam.** Numb 22:1-35;

**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

**After David before Christ.**

**Solomon. 1 Kings 10:1-13;**

**Elijah. 1 Kings 17:8-24; 19:15;**

**Elisha. 2 Kings 5:1-19; Isaiah 45:1;**

**Daniel. Daniel 2,4,5,7-12;**

**Amos 1-2; Obadiah. Jonah. Nahum.**

**The Wise. Matthew 2:1-12;**

**"They are without excuse."**

**All possessed a knowledge  
of the one true God**

**and passed it down to their descendants.**

**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

**Far too many entertain the mistaken idea that when God established His covenant with the Jews, He completely forsook all other nations.**

**Nothing could be further from the truth!**

**Deaver** expresses so well why the Gentiles were without excuse:

**"They had and they knew (or could have and could have known) what he wanted them to have and know.**

**God was manifested (His hatred of sin, His power, His justice) even to the Gentiles through Noah.**

**The descendants of Noah who turned to idolatry first had to disregard or reject their knowledge of God.**

**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

**God was manifested through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.**

**By the Exodus, God was manifested to **the Egyptians** as well as the Israelites.**

**The stories of God's dealing with Israel were known far and wide. (cf. Josh. 2:10-14;)**

**The Assyrians** were reminded of God through Jonah. The Israelites at one time were scattered throughout the kingdom of Assyria. This would spread knowledge of Jehovah.



**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

**The Babylonian Captivity** resulted in spreading and emphasizing knowledge of the one true God.

Nebuchadnezzar, Darius, and Cyrus all made decrees and proclamations regarding Jehovah.

**Jewish synagogues**, in which were emphasized the knowledge of the one true God, were scattered throughout the Roman Empire. Melchizedek, Jethro, Job, Balaam, and others, taught the one true God among the Gentiles.

Of course, the point of all this is that, **since the knowledge of God was available**, the **reprobate condition** of the Gentiles was **inexcusable**.

**1:19; “because what is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.”**

**Similarly, man who rejects God today is without excuse. (Acts 17:30;)**

**Even ignorance will not be a justifiable excuse when Jesus returns.**

**If indeed sinful men and women, ignorant of the gospel, will be saved in their ignorance as many allege, we still need to preach the gospel as God has revealed in Christ to educate these ignorant people into accountability!**

**Man is not lost because he has not heard the gospel.**

**He is lost because he is a sinner.**

**The gospel is the only antidote. (the river drowning.)**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

There is clear overwhelming evidence of God's existence: **His "invisible qualities- His eternal power and Divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made."**

VINE **"Divine nature."** THEIOTEES: Attributes of God. **"Divine nature and properties."** To an honest mind creation presents conclusive evidence intelligence exists.

But more than that Accountability to God is only consistent with divine justice, if the evidence available is adequate and conclusive.

**God had given them in the past revelation as well as creation.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

One who denies God is **"without excuse."**

Psa 19:1; Acts 14:15-17; Heb 3:4;

Unbelief is often the sinners attempt to escape from guilt of sin / judgement.

So notwithstanding the clear revelation of His power, existence, and will, the Gentiles, who knew that God existed, lived as if He did not.

Later in the chapter, Paul explains that the reason some of the Gentile sinners did not retain God in their knowledge, **is that they did not "like to."** (Rom 1:28;)

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

Incidentally, this passage proves that these Gentile sinners once had God in their knowledge, but they had **"progressed"** to the point where they had eradicated God from their knowledge.

They could not find God for the same reason that a thief cannot find a policeman right after a burglary: they were not looking for Him.

Rather than glorifying God and honouring Him with sincere gratitude for His blessings, they **"became vain in their imaginations and their foolish heart was darkened."** (cf. Eph 4:17-19;)

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**What we all really know** human dignity points to God evidence of **a conscience** or **moral aughtness, moral awareness** points to **guilt.**

**God is not just more complex,  
but totally different.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

## **What we all really know!**

There is an **intuitive line** from **creation to Creator** modern scientific assumptions do not explain the evidence of God from nature.

**The universe is vast & infinite  
building blocks of life display  
irreducible complexity.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**The design and order of the universe is sufficient evidence to convince any reasonable person that a Being of great intelligence, wisdom and power designed and made it.**

**But, many people rationalize away faith in God because they will not give up their sinful lifestyle. Their so-called reasons satisfy themselves and their like-minded friends.**



**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**Evidence of design is also evidence  
of a designer.**

**Nothing manifests design more  
than living organisms.**

**In the beginning  
AN INTELLIGENT GOD?  
or  
INORGANIC EVOLUTION?**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**Professor James Coppage said:-**

**Evolution:- Is it Possible or Impossible?**

**“The length of the average protein in the smallest known living thing is at least 400 amino acid links, containing more than 7,000 atoms.”**

**Substitutions in the order of amino acids in the chain are not compatible with life even one could be lethal.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**Each cell requires millions of protein molecules arranged precisely into dozens of organelles.**

**A living organism must be capable of self-propagation, feeding, digestion, etc.**

**What is the chance of even one molecule of protein coming into existence by chance?**

**Suppose all carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen in the crust of the earth are used to form amino acids. (1041 Molecules.)**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

Suppose these form and reform chains constantly at incredible speed. . . (**1065** total chains per year, **1075** chains since the beginning of the Universe.)

The ratio of useable chains to total possible chains  
= 1 to **10236**

Chance of 1 usable protein =  $1075/10236 = 1$  in **10161**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**At the rates given earlier, how long would we expect it to take for one molecule of protein to appear?**

**10171 years, rounded down.**

**How big is this number?  $10^{171}$  years!**

**An amoeba travels on a string,  
carrying one atom on its back.**

**The string stretches across the universe  
(15 billion light years or  $10^{28}$  inches)**

**The amoeba travels at one inch per year.  
Therefore, it can cross the universe in  $10^{28}$  years.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

To carry all the atoms in the universe across the string, returning each time it takes one across  
= the time required for one round trip,  
**(2 x 10<sup>28</sup> years)** multiplied by the number of atoms in the universe **(5 x 10<sup>78</sup>)** which is **10<sup>107</sup> years.**

It could carry **10<sup>64</sup> universes** over  
in the time it would take  
to produce **1 protein molecule!**

**If it could only travel one inch** in the whole time they say the universe has existed (15 billion years,) It would still be able to transport **6 x 10<sup>53</sup> universes** during this period!

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**Lecomte du Nouy, Human Destiny, 32**

“If the probability of an event is infinitely slight, it is equivalent to the practical impossibility of its happening within certain time limits.”

**“Belief in inorganic evolution requires more faith than belief in God.”**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

If you were to see **a clock inside a bottle.**

What would you conclude?

– **accident or intelligence.**

If you were to see a **pile of bricks with dynamite under it.**

What would you conclude?

– **accident or intelligence.**

Why do so many intelligent people believe in inorganic evolution?

Only by over-simplifying living cells (not to mention human consciousness) to an absurd extent can critics make it seem plausible that they happened by accident.



**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**We are not denying** the idea of **variation within a species** type of evolution. . .

We know logically that the idea our world came into existence **purely by chance is extremely unlikely!**

When we examine the evidence **we see a designer/creator was at work.**

**Who is that creator?**

An impersonal force?

The God of our choosing?

The God of the Bible?

**We need to be a seeker after truth!**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**What we all really know is not that we don't know or can't know, but that we don't want to know.**

**We have a problem of the heart -**

**We need to get back to God.**

**When we look inside ourselves, we see evidence there that we were created by an infinite, personal God.**

**What is the evidence from internal consistency (presuppositions.)**

**Compare people's beliefs to their actions.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**Our actions** may demonstrate our **true beliefs** better than **our words**.

When our **actions contradict** our **claimed beliefs**, it suggests we are **either confused** or **dishonest**.

**Examples of inconsistency.**

Your friend says he doesn't believe in gravity, but he wears a parachute when flying.

Your wife says she loves you, but she wants to have an affair with another man.

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**A friend says he is concerned about the environment, but you see him empty his car’s oil into the stream behind his house.**

**Areas to check:- Morality.**

**Watch paper falling:-** Matter reacting to physical laws **cannot be** turned into morality  
**Under naturalism, what is, is right.**

**“Under Naturalism, the difference between, say, Mother Teresa and Hitler is roughly the same as the difference between whether I want to be a trumpet player or a football player.”**  
**there is NO right or WRONG in the choice.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

Those who believe in  
an infinite, personal creator God  
**believe in morality** because God,  
as a moral being, made us moral beings.

Doesn't imply that we necessarily always  
make the right choice to live morally.

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**Pantheists have a problem with morality.**

Who is really reluctant to  
swat a mosquito or eat an onion?  
But why are we willing to kill these  
when we are unwilling not kill humans?

Why do we say all people are equal?  
Without a personal, spiritual dimension,  
**this is nonsense.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**Pantheists have a problem with morality.**

**When believers in God say humans are significant it is because we were created in the image of God.**

**As personal beings, whether for good or for evil, we are more significant than non-personal beings. We have a greater impact and responsibility.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

## **Areas to check:- Freedom.**

**J.P. Moreland:-** “It is important to have freedom of the will in order for there to be such a thing as human moral action or moral responsibility.

It is important to have freedom of the will in order for there to be meaningful love.

If the universe = is matter only, it is a machine, no matter how complex.

**If cause and effect explain everything, this includes your thoughts.**



**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

**When we protest a rapist or a racist, we are showing that we believe they are not pre determined to do what they do, but are free to make a choice.**

**As thinking Christians we argue that human freedom has been impaired but still continues to a meaningful extent.**

**We have the power to make free choices especially whether to come to God or not.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

When we believe people are **significant, free, moral beings,** we imply that **God** must have **created them with a spiritual nature.**

We are not suggesting  
that Christians are better than others  
We are only saying that God  
**“made himself evident within us.”** Rom 1:19;

**Our own actions show that at some deep level, we know a personal God made us.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

## **The Problem of Evil:- Evil exists!**

**If God is so good,  
why is His creation  
so evil?**

**What has God done  
about evil in the world?**



**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

## **The Problem of Evil:- Evil exists!**

**Atheism:-** Can't even say what evil is!  
What is, is right. At most, some things are disadvantageous to the species.

**Pantheism:-** God is in all, including evil!  
This evil world = illusion (maya)  
Karmic law explains misfortunes.

### **Animism:-**

No problem with evil / gods are also evil.  
All events are the result of spirit activity  
Taboos = are different than moral thinking...

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

## **The Problem of Evil:- Evil exists!**

**Biblical Theism:- Beginning with-  
Personhood / Self awareness.**

**Why are people more destructive  
and “evil” than other species?  
Human sexuality.**

**Where are the intervening species?**

- Intellect. - Inter-fertility.
- Religion & afterlife
- Moral motions
- Aesthetic fascination.

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

## **The Problem of Evil:- Evil exists!**

### **Personhood:- Why is it important?**

**Only a personal being can do something evil**

**To be personal,**

**implies we are non-programmed beings**

**See relation of free choice and responsibility.**

**Evil was chosen and continues to be chosen**

**Now the human race has been damaged.**

**1:20;** “Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly understood through what has been made, so they are without excuse.”

## **The Problem of Evil:-**

**What should GOD do with these men?**

**Nothing? Reward?**

**Apologize?**

**Bring Judgment?**

**Biblical View.**

**Now humans stand under  
the judgment of God:  
see Gods conclusion  
in Rom 3:23;**



# 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...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."



# THE STEPS OF APOSTACY.

**FAILED TO GLORIFY GOD! v21;**

**FAILED TO GIVE THANKS FOR HIS BLESSINGS! v21**

**TURNED TO RATIONALISM! v21**

**LACKED REGARD FOR TRUTH! v21;**

**CLAIMED SUPERIOR WISDOM! v22;**

**BECAME FOOLS! v22;**

**MADE IMAGES- WORSHIPPED THE CREATURE  
RATHER THAN THE CREATOR! v23;**

**1:21;** “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.”

**Corrupt thinking. 1: v21-22.**

**Man had the knowledge of God but rejected it.**

**CICERO:-** "there is something in the nature of things, which the mind of man, which reasons, which human power cannot effect and certainty that produces this **must be better than man.**"

**What can this be called but GOD.**

What can be so plain and manifest when we look at heavenly things as that there is some divinity of a most exalted mind; which by these things are governed." **BARNES** on Rom p43-44;

**1:21;** “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.”

**glorify/ doxazo**, "to magnify, extol, praise, or ascribe honour." When used of God means to acknowledge Him as to His Being, attributes and acts.

The Gentiles did not glorify God because they failed to do what they knew they should do. (James 4:17;)

They did less than they at one time knew to do, and this was the basis of their condemnation.

**Human wisdom often makes men fools.**

**1:21;** “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.”

**"They were not thankful to God."**

**Men who fail to be thankful to God for his blessings tend to put Him further and further from their hearts.**

**This lack of gratitude contributed to their rebellious spirit seeing they had no sense of obligation to God**

**This condition is subtly revealed in the narrative of the miraculous cure of the ten lepers. Luke 17:11-19; and the parable of the rich fool. Luke 12:16-21;**

**1:21;** “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.”

**"Their hearts became dark."**

Their morally worthless minds were stupefied.

Being insensitive to truth, they were ready for the strong delusion. 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12;

11. “For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, 12. in order **that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.**”

**They were governed by lust and human reasoning.**

**1:21;** “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.”

**AMP:** "Professing to be smart they made simpletons of themselves." **"fools"**. Implies **moral obtuseness**, rather than deficiency in intellect.

**VINE.** **"MORAINO:** from **MOOROS - moron.**  
All from **MUH:** stupid and foolish - idiotic behaviour.  
**Mt. 5:13; "lost its taste."**

**Though they considered themselves exceedingly wise, in reality they were fools before God and men.**  
**(cf. Ps. 14:1; 53:1).**

**1:21;** “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.”

**1 Cor 1:2;** “So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world's brilliant debaters? God has made them all look foolish and has shown their wisdom to be useless nonsense.”

**1 Cor 1:25;** “This **foolish** plan of God is far wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's weakness is far stronger than the greatest of human strength.”

**Prov 3:35;** “The wise inherit honour, but fools are put to shame!”

**1:22-23;** “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.”

**Ecc 7:4;** “A wise person thinks much about death, while the fool thinks only about having a good time now.”

**2 Cor 11:18-19;** “And since others boast about their human achievements, I will, too. After all, you, who think you are so wise, enjoy listening to fools!”

**Eph 5:15;** “So be careful how you live, not as fools but as those who are wise.”

**When passion and human wisdom became their God, they personified these in myth and fashioned them in gold, silver, stone and wood.**



**1:22-23;** “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.”

**Their images and altars reflected the depravity to which they sank.**

**Idolatry was a replacement of the God who made man with a man made god**

**Hence programmes like “pop idol.”**

**Corrupt in worship.**

**This verse describes idolatry in Pagan world.**

**NOTE: deliberate action: "exchange the glory of the immortal God for images." Psa 106:19-21;**

**Monotheism** was the original state of man but he abandoned it for idolatry.

**1:22-23;** “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.”

Instead of progression or evolution in religion, this account v18-30; indicates that **there is retrogression.**

**Men turn from God to idols,** from purity to gross sinfulness, which they love and approve.

They had the audacity to **change the glory of the incorruptible God** into images resembling corruptible man, birds, four-footed beasts, and creeping things.

In other words, **they substituted the worship of idols for the worship of Almighty God.**

In fact, they reasoned that they were worshipping God by worshipping an image of man, **because man was made in the image of God.**

**1:22-23;** “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.”

**We sneer at folly of such an idea, but our current Western culture is not really different.**

**As John Stott observed, "To exchange the worship of the living God for the **modern obsession** with wealth, fame and power **is equally foolish and equally blameworthy.**"**

**Belief in God is the only reasonable conclusion of honest examination. If a man **chooses disobedience** God will allow him to reap the consequences.**

**Rom 1:18-23; What is known  
about God is evident.**

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**Next in the series:-  
Rom 1:24-32; God gave them up.**