

Abandoned by God, Part 1

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 1:24-32.

B. Man is not good. His nature is bent on sin.

C. Man is utterly sinful because he has been abandoned by God. This means that God no longer restrains man.

II. The abandonment by God is not a new idea in Scripture. There is a point where God lets people go. (Psalm 81:11; Hosea 4:17; Acts 7; 14:16)

III. Steps to the abandonment.

A. The people were given Revelation.

B. They descended to rejection.

C. They fall to rationalization.

D. They invent religion to worship everything but the true God. This a violation of the first commandment, and at this point God gives man up.

IV. The wrath of God is being revealed all the time in God's giving men up.

V. When men abandon God, God abandons men and sin takes its full effect. (Judges 10:13; 2 Chronicles 15; 24)

VI. Sin.

A. Introduction.

1. God gave men over to a punishment. (Matthew 26; 27:2)

2. God gives men over to the consequence of their own sin.

3. There is a sense where God just lets go.

4. God makes men's passions the very instruments of his wrath.

5. God does not make man sin.

6. God is in the process of abandoning the nation. (2 Thessalonians 2:7)

7. God smites so that he might heal. (1 Peter 3:20, 1 Corinthians 6, Isaiah 22)

B. The essence of sin.

1. The essence of man's sinfulness is that he is impure/unclean. (2 Corinthians 9:21)
2. This expresses itself primarily sexually, but it characterizes the corrupt heart also. (Proverbs 4:23, Jeremiah 17:9)
3. Man is basically rotten. (Romans 3:10; Mark 7; Proverbs 6; 10:20; Isaiah 44:20; Jeremiah 5:23; Ezekiel 14:3)
4. Man treats themselves as animals. (1 Thessalonians 4)
5. The body has been turned into an instrument of lust.
6. The truth of God is exchanged for the lie--that God is not God. (Isaiah 44:20, Jeremiah 13:25)

C. The expression of sin.

D. The extent of sin.

Application Questions:

1. Why does God abandon men to their sin? Is God culpable of man's sin because of this?

2. Why is it important to understand that man basically has a corrupt moral nature?

3. In what ways can we see the depravity of man through the treatment of the body today? Explain.
