

Abandoned by God, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 1:31-32.

B. Paul's theme is the gospel in Romans--the good news.

C. Paul begins the good news with the bad news. God is angry with men.

D. God is angry because men know God, reject God, rationalize ignorance, create their own gods and fall to reprobation.

E. The wrath of God is continually being revealed as God abandons men to the exercise of its own sin and willfulness.

F. Man cannot keep himself pure. God lets them go so that they will turn to God in desperation. (Isaiah 19:21, Psalm 119:21)

II. God abandons man to the essence of sinfulness (uncleanliness). (1 Thessalonians 4:5, James 1:14, Ephesians 2:3)

A. Man has lost a sense of his own dignity.

B. This has all happened because man abandoned God.

III. God abandons man to the expression of his own sinfulness.

A. The ultimate expression of this is homosexuality--it is not a perversion, it is an inversion.

B. They carry on an act that is contrary to nature. (1 Corinthians 11:14)

C. God made them male and female. (Genesis 1, Leviticus 18:20)

D. God saves these kind of people. (1 Corinthians 6)

IV. The extent of man's sinfulness.

A. The people did not want to know God, so God gave them up. (Proverbs 1:7, Jeremiah 9:6, 2 Corinthians 4)

B. God gives them over to a reprobate mind--debauched reason, lust, maliciousness, envy, deceit, spite, slander, pride, etc. (Jeremiah 6:30)

C. The people who commit such things know of their judgment. (Romans 2:15)

D. Man's evil is so great that he is hopeless. The saving grace of Jesus is welcome.

V. Christ will wash the believer clean. Jesus is in the business of saving sinners. (1 Corinthians 6)

Application Questions:

1. What are some practices that disregard the dignity of man today?

2. Why is homosexuality such a high expression of sinfulness?

3. Why is God not culpable for giving men up to their own sin?
